



**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORTS STRATEGY  
STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN  
NOVEMBER 2022**

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, PROFESSIONALISM

**Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd**  
Company No: 9145032 (England)

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

Registered Office: 1 -2 Frecheville Court, off Knowsley Street, Bury BL9 0UF  
T: 0161 764 7040 E: [mail@kcp.co.uk](mailto:mail@kcp.co.uk) [www.kcp.co.uk](http://www.kcp.co.uk)



Cert Num: 6543-QMS-001

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

## CONTENTS

ABBREVIATIONS.....	1
PART 1: INTRODUCTION.....	2
PART 2: VISION.....	8
PART 3: AIMS.....	8
PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	9
PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS.....	30
PART 6: ACTION PLAN.....	44
NORTH BURNLEY ANALYSIS AREA.....	47
PADIHAM & HAPTON ANALYSIS AREA.....	53
EAST BURNLEY & CLIVIGER ANALYSIS AREA.....	57
SOUTH BURNLEY ANALYSIS AREA.....	62
WEST BURNLEY ANALYSIS AREA.....	66
PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS.....	69
PART 8: DELIVER THE STRATEGY AND KEEP IT ROBUST AND UP TO DATE.....	73
APPENDIX ONE: TAILORED APPROACH FOR BURNLEY STAGE E.....	76
APPENDIX TWO: GLOSSARY.....	78
APPENDIX THREE: SPORTING CONTEXT.....	80

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

### ABBREVIATIONS

3G	Third Generation (artificial grass pitch)
AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
BBC	Burnley Borough Council
BC	Bowls Club
BAFA	British American Football Association
BARLA	British Amateur Rugby League Association
CC	Cricket Club
CASC	Community Amateur Sports Club
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
FA	Football Association
FC	Football Club
FF	Football Foundation
FIFA	Fédération Internationale de Football Association
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GMA	Grounds Maintenance Association
HC	Hockey Club
HE	Higher Education
IMS	International Match Standard
JFC	Junior Football Club
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
LDF	Local Development Framework
LFA	Lancashire Football Association
LFFP	Local Football Facility Plan
LMS	Last Man Stands
LTA	Lawn Tennis Association
NGB	National Governing Body
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NTP	Non-turf Pitch
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PIP	Pitch Improvement Programme
PQS	Performance Quality Standard
PPOSS	Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sport Strategy
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
PF	Playing Field
RFU	Rugby Football Union
RUFC	Rugby Union Football Club
S106	Section 106 Agreement
SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
TC	Tennis Club
TGR	Team Generation Rate
U	Under

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

### PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Playing Pitch & Outdoor Sport Strategy (PPOSS) for Burnley. Building upon the preceding Assessment Report, it provides a clear, strategic framework in relation to the provision of playing pitch and outdoor sport facilities. It delivers:

- ◀ A vision for the future protection, improvement and development of provision.
- ◀ A series of sport-by-sport recommendations and scenarios.
- ◀ A series of strategic recommendations.
- ◀ A prioritised area-by-area and site-by-site action plan that prioritise and can address key issues.

The Strategy is delivered in accordance with Sport England's Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) Guidance (for playing pitch sports) and Sport England's Assessing Needs and Opportunities Guide (for "non-pitch" sports). Sport England's PPS Guidance details a stepped approach, separated into five distinct sections:

- ◀ Stage A: Prepare and tailor the approach
- ◀ Stage B: Gather information and views on the supply of and demand for provision
- ◀ Stage C: Assess the supply and demand information and views
- ◀ Stage D: Develop the Strategy
- ◀ Stage E: Deliver the Strategy and keep it robust and up to date

This report represents Stage D of the process, with stages A-C covered in the preceding Assessment Report and Stage E ongoing once the study is complete. The lifespan of a PPOSS is considered to be three years, although this can be increased if it is regularly kept up to date.

Where not already implemented, the recommendations that come out of this strategy should be translated into local planning policy so that there is a mechanism in place to protect existing provision and to secure investment where the opportunity arises.

#### **Study area**

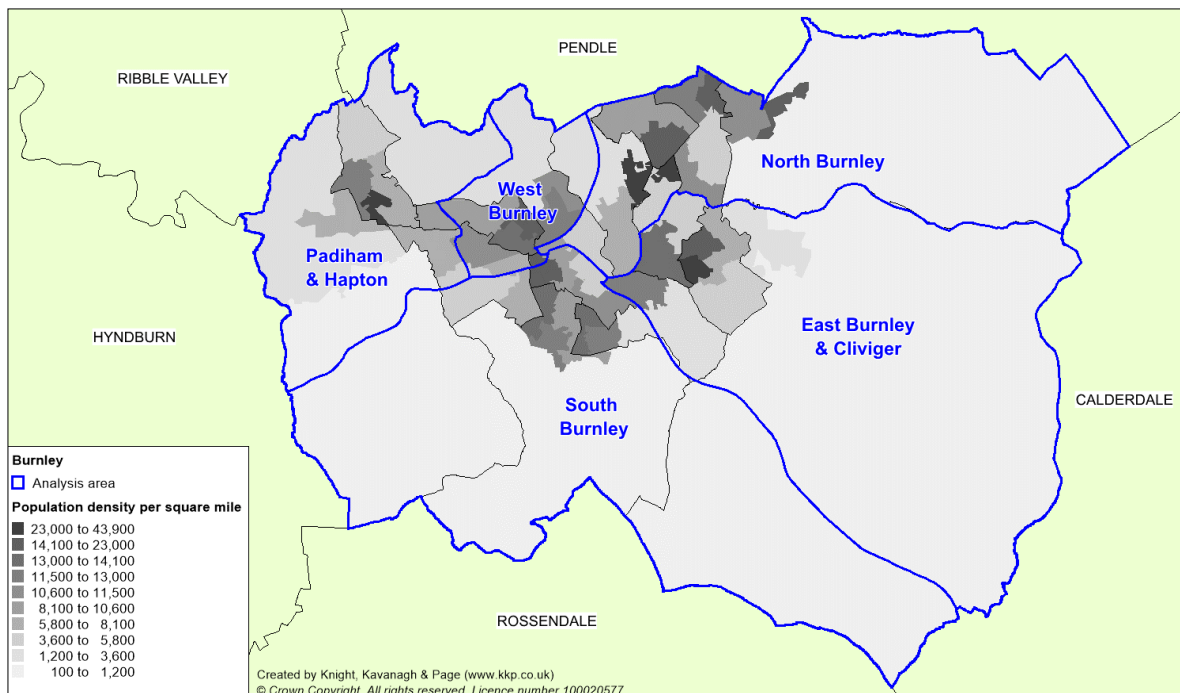
The study area covers the entirety of the authority. In addition, analysis areas (or sub areas) are used to allow for a more localised analysis, as well as the analysis for Burnley as a whole.

The Borough is divided into five analysis areas which broadly align with other sub-areas used for planning purposes and open space studies, as follows:

- ◀ East Burnley & Cliviger
- ◀ North Burnley
- ◀ Padiham & Hapton
- ◀ South Burnley
- ◀ West Burnley

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Figure 1.1: Burnley study area with analysis areas



## Agreed scope

The scope of the PPOSS focuses geographically on all local provision, regardless of ownership and management arrangements. Provision included within the PPOSS is as follows:

- ◀ Football
- ◀ 3G pitches
- ◀ Cricket
- ◀ Rugby league
- ◀ Rugby union
- ◀ Hockey (hockey suitable AGPs)
- ◀ Tennis
- ◀ Netball
- ◀ Bowls
- ◀ Golf
- ◀ MUGAs
- ◀ Other sports<sup>1</sup>

Pitch sports (e.g. football, rugby union, rugby league, hockey and cricket) are assessed using Sport England's Guidance. In addition, any other outdoor sports identified during the project have been included.

Some outdoor sports have not been included within the scope of the study; however, planning policy still relates to such activity and relevant provision. Their omission does not alter this.

<sup>1</sup> American football and rounders

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

### 1.1: Headline findings

The table below highlights the quantitative headline findings identified for all main pitch sports included in the preceding Assessment Report. Match equivalent sessions (MES) is used as the comparable unit for natural grass pitches. Converting both the amount of play a site can accommodate (its carrying capacity) and how much play takes place there (its current use) into the same unit of demand enables a comparison to be undertaken.

Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected. As the main usage of pitches is for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be match equivalent sessions.

Based on how they tend to be played, this unit for football and rugby union pitches relates to a typical week within the season for each sport. For cricket pitches it is appropriate to look at the number of match equivalent sessions over the course of a season. How much play a cricket pitch can accommodate is primarily determined by the number and quality of wickets on a pitch. Only one match is generally played per pitch per day. However, play is rotated across the wickets to reduce wear and allow for repair. Each wicket is able to accommodate a certain amount of play per season as opposed to a week.

The PPS guidance does not advocate the conversion of MES to pitches as there is not always a case for providing pitches to meet the demand/shortfalls expressed. For example, improving the quality of pitches can also increase the capacity of existing pitches to accommodate such demand. For qualitative findings and site-specific findings, please see Part 4: Sport Specific Recommendations and Scenarios, and Part 6: Action Plan.

For artificial surfaces, how much play can be accommodated is primarily determined by availability, rather than how much play it can accommodate before its quality is adversely affected as with natural grass pitches. Therefore, hours in the peak period is used as the comparable unit. For the other non-pitch sports (i.e. tennis, bowls etc) capacity is in accordance with Paragraph B13 of the ANOG guidance.

Table 1.2: Quantitative headline findings (pitch sports)

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance in MES <sup>2</sup>	Future supply/ demand balance (2032) in MES
<b>Football – grass pitches</b>			
North Burnley	Adult	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 0.5
	Youth 11v11	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>
	Youth 9v9	<b>Shortfall of 0.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 1</b>
	Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1	<b>Shortfall of 0.5</b>
	Mini 5v5	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
Padiham & Hapton	Adult	<b>Shortfall of 2.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 2.5</b>
	Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 0.5	<b>Shortfall of 0.5</b>
	Youth 9v9	<b>Shortfall of 0.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 1</b>
	Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
	Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
East Burnley & Cliviger	Adult	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>
	Youth 11v11	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Youth 9v9	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Mini 7v7	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Mini 5v5	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<b>Shortfall of 1</b>
South Burnley	Adult	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>

<sup>2</sup> MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance in MES <sup>2</sup>	Future supply/ demand balance (2032) in MES
	Youth 11v11	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Youth 9v9	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Mini 7v7	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Mini 5v5	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
West Burnley	Adult	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Youth 11v11	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5
	Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5
	Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5
<b>Burnley</b>	<b>Adult</b>	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 2.5</b>
	<b>Youth 11v11</b>	Spare capacity of 0.5	<b>Shortfall of 2</b>
	<b>Youth 9v9</b>	<b>Shortfall of 0.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>
	<b>Mini 7v7</b>	Spare capacity of 2.5	Spare capacity of 1.5
	<b>Mini 5v5</b>	Spare capacity of 1.5	Spare capacity of 0.5
<b>Football – 3G pitches</b>			
North Burnley	Full size	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
Padiham & Hapton	Full size	<b>Shortfall of 3G pitches</b>	<b>Shortfall of 3G pitches</b>
East Burnley & Cliviger	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
South Burnley	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
West Burnley	Full size	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
<b>Burnley</b>	<b>Full size</b>	<b>Shortfall of 3G pitches</b>	<b>Shortfall of 3G pitches</b>
<b>Cricket</b>			
North Burnley	Senior (Saturday)	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Senior (Sunday)	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Junior (midweek)	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
Padiham & Hapton	Senior (Saturday)	<b>Shortfall of 3</b>	<b>Shortfall of 3</b>
	Senior (Sunday)	Spare capacity of 9	Spare capacity of 9
	Junior (midweek)	<b>Shortfall of 9</b>	<b>Shortfall of 9</b>
East Burnley & Cliviger	Senior (Saturday)	<b>Shortfall of 12</b>	<b>Shortfall of 12</b>
	Senior (Sunday)	<b>Shortfall of 12</b>	<b>Shortfall of 12</b>
	Junior (midweek)	<b>Shortfall of 7</b>	<b>Shortfall of 7</b>
South Burnley	Senior (Saturday)	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Senior (Sunday)	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Junior (midweek)	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
West Burnley	Senior (Saturday)	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Senior (Sunday)	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Junior (midweek)	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
<b>Burnley</b>	Senior (Saturday)	<b>Shortfall of 15</b>	<b>Shortfall of 15</b>
	Senior (Sunday)	<b>Shortfall of 3</b>	<b>Shortfall of 3</b>

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Analysis area	Pitch/facility type	Current supply/ demand balance in MES <sup>2</sup>	Future supply/ demand balance (2032) in MES
	Junior (midweek)	Shortfall of 16	Shortfall of 22
<b>Rugby union</b>			
North Burnley	Senior	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
Padiham & Hapton	Senior	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
East Burnley & Cliviger	Senior	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
South Burnley	Senior	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
West Burnley	Senior	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
<b>Burnley</b>	<b>Senior</b>	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
<b>Rugby league</b>			
<b>Burnley</b>	<b>Senior</b>	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
<b>Hockey</b>			
<b>Burnley</b>	<b>Full size</b>	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity

For non-pitch sports, quantitative shortfalls can be more difficult to determine, with capacity guidance differing and with focus often away from formal club activity. The current and future picture for each sport is therefore instead summarised in the table below.

Table 1.3: Quantitative headline findings (non-pitch sports)

Sport	Current picture	Future picture (2032)
<b>Tennis</b>	Sufficient quantity <b>but quality issues</b>	Sufficient quantity <b>but quality issues</b>
<b>Netball</b>	Sufficient quantity <b>but issues surrounding tenure</b>	Sufficient quantity <b>but issues surrounding tenure</b>
<b>Bowls</b>	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
<b>Golf</b>	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
<b>MUGAs</b>	<b>Shortfalls within the East Burnley &amp; Cliviger and Padiham &amp; Hapton analysis areas</b>	<b>Shortfalls within the East Burnley &amp; Cliviger and Padiham &amp; Hapton analysis areas</b>
<b>Other sports</b>	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity

## Conclusions

The existing position for all sports is either that demand is being met or that there is a shortfall, whereas the future position shows the exacerbation of current shortfalls and the creation of additional shortfalls for some pitch/facility types and in some areas where demand is currently being met.

Where demand is being met, this does not equate to a surplus of provision, with any spare capacity instead considered as a solution to overcoming shortfalls. As such, there is a clear need to protect all existing playing pitch and outdoor sport provision until all demand is met, or there is a requirement to replace provision to an equal or better quantity and quality before it is lost, in line with national planning policy. The only exception to this is in the case of sports provision being replaced by a different form of sports provision on the assumption that no clubs or users are left without alternative provision and providing that this is agreed upon by Sport England and the relevant NGBs.

For the most part, the shortfalls identified can be met by better utilising current provision, such as through improving quality, re-configuration, installing additional sports lighting,



## **BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

---

improving ancillary facilities and enabling access to existing unused provision, such as at unavailable school sites.

It should be identified that cricket has the highest levels of shortfalls out of the main pitch sports equating to an overall current deficit of 15 match equivalent sessions a season on Saturdays, three match equivalent sessions a season on Sundays and 16 match equivalent sessions a season Midweek. Although these are the largest shortfalls there is not a requirement for additional provision with other methods identified in Part 4: Sport Specific Issues Scenarios and Recommendations.

In relation to football, there is also a shortfall of 3G pitches that can only be met through increased provision. With resources to improve the quality of grass pitches being limited, an increase in 3G provision could also help reduce grass pitch shortfalls through the transfer of play, which in turn can aid pitch quality improvements.

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

## PART 2: VISION

### 2.1: Vision

The vision for the PPOSS provides a clear focus with desired outcomes for the study. It seeks to support the Council and its partners to:

‘To create a thriving, successful and healthy community for all by promoting cohesive mixed communities and ensuring that everyone can have a decent home, in a safe environment, with good access to health care, educational provision and other community facilities by sustainable modes, including walking and cycling.’

## PART 3: OBJECTIVES

The following overarching aims are based on the three Sport England objectives (see figure 3.1 below). It is recommended that they are adopted by the Council and its partners to enable it to achieve the overall vision of the PPS and Sport England planning objectives. Strategy delivery is the responsibility of, and relies upon, all stakeholders.

### OBJECTIVES 1

To **protect** the existing supply of outdoor sport provision and ancillary facilities where it is needed for meeting current and future needs

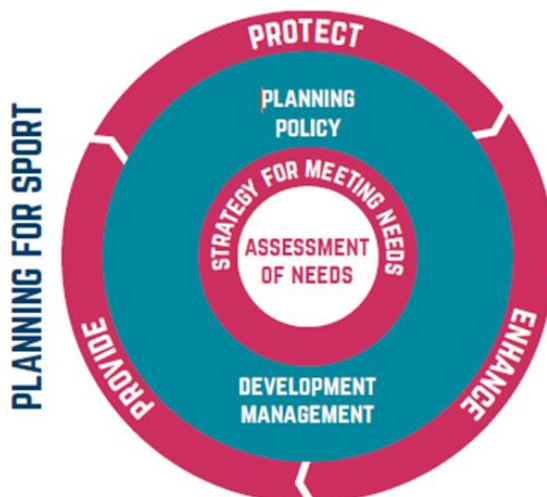
### OBJECTIVES 2

To **enhance** outdoor sport provision and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites

### OBJECTIVES 3

To **provide** new outdoor sport provision and ancillary facilities where there is current or future demand to do so

Figure 3.1: Sport England objectives



Source: Sport England, *Planning for Sport Guidance* (2019)

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

### PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In this section, in order to help develop recommendations and actions for each sport, and to understand their potential impact, a number of relevant scenario questions are tested against the key issues identified in the preceding Assessment Report for each sport. This then informs sport specific recommendations.

#### Football – grass pitches

##### *Supply and demand summary*

- ◀ **Capacity of grass football pitches can sufficiently meet current demand across all pitch types apart from adult and youth 9v9 pitches.**
- ◀ **However, future growth would lead to future shortfalls, across the Borough on adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches. Whilst mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches continue to be able to accommodate future demand.**

##### **Supply**

- ◀ The audit identifies a total of 68 grass football pitches within Burnley across 24 sites. Of these, 41 pitches across 11 sites are identified as being available for community use.
- ◀ Of the community available pitches most are in the North Burnley Analysis Area (19 pitches - 46% of available pitches), followed by the Padiham & Hapton Analysis Area (10 pitches - 25%) and then the East Burnley & Cliviger Analysis Area (seven pitches - 17%). The West Burnley Analysis Area has five pitches (12% of available pitches), whilst the South Burnley Analysis Area has no pitches.

##### **Quality**

- ◀ In total, one pitch (3%) is rated as good quality, 21 as standard quality (51%) and 19 as poor quality (46%).
- ◀ Of the 10 sites that are actively used for community football, three sites (30%) are serviced by good quality ancillary facilities and five sites (50%) by poor quality ancillary facilities. The remaining two sites, Hapton Recreation Ground and Queens Park, (20%) are not serviced by onsite clubhouse/changing room provision. No sites are serviced by ancillary provision of standard quality.

##### **Demand**

- ◀ There are 126 teams identified as playing football matches in the Borough. This is made up of 22 adult men's, two adult women's, 58 youth boys', seven youth girls' and 47 mini soccer teams.
- ◀ Only a team from Burnley FC Women are known to export demand to the LFA County Ground (South Ribble), in order to meet WSL Tier requirements.
- ◀ Future club growth aspirations, participation targets and team generations rates total 16 potential new teams, resulting in additional capacity requirement (in match equivalent sessions per week) of two on adult pitches, 2.5 on youth 11v11 pitches, one on youth 9v9 pitches, 1.5 on mini 7v7 pitches and one on mini 5v5 pitches.

##### **Capacity**

- ◀ There are 12 pitches across six sites identified as having actual spare capacity, totalling six match equivalent sessions per week.
- ◀ In total, five pitches across just two sites (Fennyfold Playing Fields and Queens Park) are overplayed by a combined total of 3.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

## Scenarios

### Improving pitch quality

In total, there are five pitches overplayed in Burnley across two sites by a combined total of 3.5 match equivalent sessions. Improving quality of such provision will increase carrying capacity across the sites and as a consequence reduce both current and future shortfalls.

To illustrate the above, Table 4.1 highlights that all current levels of overplay would be alleviated if quality improved to good at each site. The capacity rating for each pitch type and quality rating is:

Adult pitches		Youth pitches		Mini pitches	
Pitch quality	Matches per week	Pitch quality	Matches per week	Pitch quality	Matches per week
Good	3	Good	4	Good	6
Standard	2	Standard	2	Standard	4
Poor	1	Poor	1	Poor	2

Table 4.1: Overplay if all pitches were good quality

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Current quality	Current capacity rating	Good quality capacity rating
21	Fennyfold Playing Fields	Adult	2	Poor	2.5	1.5
		Youth 9v9	1	Standard	0.5	1.5
34	Queens Park (Burnley)	Youth 9v9	2	Standard	0.5	3.5

As seen, all overplayed pitches could accommodate current demand if quality improved and would also offer additional capacity. Reducing the overplay to this degree will eradicate all existing pitch shortfalls across Burnley.

### Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP 2019)A

As improving the quality of all overplayed sites may not be feasible from an investment point of view, an alternative approach is to focus on improving strategic sites. To that end, the Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP 2019) identified four sites for grass pitch improvements that are considered to be in need of investment and that are key for football across Burnley. The table below identifies what the impact could be on the supply and demand balance of pitches at these sites if quality was improved to a good quality.

With the above being said, there is a need to reinforce, as a minimum, an understanding of the sites position compared to overall grass pitch and 3g quality, so that a high strategic view and future action plan can be maintained (If investment is not clear).

Table 4.2: Impact of LFFP quality improvements

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality	Current capacity rating	Good capacity rating
21		Adult	2	Poor	2.5	1.5

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Pitch type	No. of pitches	Quality	Current capacity rating	Good capacity rating
	Fennyfold Playing Fields	Mini (5v5)	1	Standard	4	6
		Mini (7v7)	1	Standard	3.5	5.5
		Youth (9v9)	1	Standard	0.5	1.5
34	Queens Park (Burnley)	Mini (5v5)	1	Standard	0	2
		Mini (7v7)	2	Standard	0	4
		Youth (9v9)	2	Standard	0.5	3.5
41	Sycamore Avenue	<b>No pitches currently marked</b>				
43	Towneley Park Playing Fields	Adult	7	Poor	0.5	14.5
<b>Total</b>					<b>4.5</b>	<b>38.5</b>

Non-technical site assessments at Sycamore Avenue identified that no pitches were marked out for 2021/22 season.

Improving quality as set out in the table above could create 34 match equivalent sessions per week of additional capacity and create one additional match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity per week. In addition, all of those pitches that are currently overplayed could have the overplay alleviated.

The impact the improvements would have on the overall supply and demand balance is shown in the following table.

Table 4.3: Impact on current capacity balance if quality improved at LFFP sites

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Adult	1.5	0.5
Youth 11v11	0.5	0.5
Youth 9v9	0.5	1
Mini 7v7	2.5	2.5
Mini 5v5	1.5	1.5

Overall shortfalls on adult pitches would be reduced by two match equivalent sessions per week and overplay on youth 9v9 would be reduced by 1.5 match equivalent sessions per week.

Table 4.4: Impact on future capacity balance if quality improved at 2019 LFFP sites

Pitch type	Overall capacity (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Adult	3.5	1
Youth 11v11	2	2
Youth 9v9	1.5	0
Mini 7v7	1.5	1.5
Mini 5v5	0.5	0.5

When factoring future demand, there will still be levels of overplay on adult and youth 11v11 pitch types. Whilst overplay on youth 9v9 pitches would be alleviated and the pitch type would be played to capacity.

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

As the LFFP is a live document to be informed by an up-to-date PPS, it is recommended that the priority list is updated on the back of this study to account for changes in demand since the project was completed. To help guide this process, the table below comments on whether the PPOSS provides evidence to support the inclusion of the sites currently featured.

Table 4.5: Assessing 2019 LFFP priority list (grass pitch improvements)

Site ID	Site name	Comments	LFFP update recommendation
21	Fennyfold Playing Fields	Key site that is poor quality	<b>Retain for improvement</b>
34	Queens Park (Burnley)	Key site that is poor quality	<b>Retain for improvement</b>
41	Sycamore Avenue	Site is currently unused	<b>Consider removal from the LFFP subject to future strategic importance.</b>
43	Towneley Park Playing Fields	Key site that is poor quality	<b>Retain for improvement</b>

Further to the above, additional sites should also be considered for inclusion following the assessment in the PPOSS. In that regard, the following sites should be considered given the number of pitches supplied and the quality/overplay issues identified:

- ◀ Lockyer Avenue (One youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches all of which are standard quality)
- ◀ Prairie Sports Village (Four youth 9v9, four mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches all of which are standard quality)

PitchPower can be used as a further means to verify the suitability of these sites to be added to the project list and the level of investment required.

### **Reinstating use of pitches at Worsthorne Recreation Ground**

Worsthorne Recreation Ground is planned for future development to provide additional pitches in the Borough. The site previously accommodated football pitches, with the site being redeveloped through the Council and FF to form a home site for Fulfilled Colts FC. The site is due to be used for the 2022/23 season and will accommodate one youth 11v11, one youth 9v9, one mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5.

If all the pitches were reinstated, and maintained to a good quality, there would be additional actual spare capacity created of one match equivalent sessions per week on both the youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 pitches, and one on both mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches, a total of an additional four match equivalent sessions per week of actual spare capacity across all pitch types.

Table 4.6: Impact on current capacity balance if pitches at Worsthorne Recreation Ground were reinstated

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Adult	1.5	1.5
Youth 11v11	0.5	1.5
Youth 9v9	0.5	0.5
Mini 7v7	2.5	3.5
Mini 5v5	1.5	2.5

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

When these pitches are factored into the current capacity balance of pitches in Burnley it would alleviate current shortfalls on youth 9v9 pitches. In addition, further capacity would be created on youth 11v11, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches.

*Table 4.7: Impact on future capacity balance if pitches at Worsthorne Recreation Ground were reinstated*

Pitch type	Demand (match equivalent sessions per week)	
	Current total	Potential total
Adult	3.5	3.5
Youth 11v11	2	1
Youth 9v9	1.5	0.5
Mini 7v7	1.5	2.5
Mini 5v5	0.5	1.5

When factoring the pitches into the future supply and demand of pitches in Burnley, overplay on adult, youth 11v11 and youth 9v9 would be reduced but remain. In addition, further capacity is created on mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitches.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of pitches (unless replacement provision is agreed upon and provided).
- ◀ Where pitches are overplayed and assessed as poor or standard quality, prioritise investment and review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain use and improve quality.
- ◀ Use the LFFP as a guide to determine suitable sites for grass pitch investment and update the priority projects within it following this study.
- ◀ Maximise use of the Football Foundation PitchPower app to develop technical recommendations for the improvement and ongoing maintenance of provision.<sup>3</sup>
- ◀ Lancashire FA to support clubs maintaining their own pitches to undertake PitchPower assessments, implement the technical recommendations to improve quality and support clubs to access Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund support where eligible.
- ◀ Reinstate provision at Worsthorne Recreation Ground.
- ◀ Work to accommodate exported, latent and future demand at sites which are not operating at capacity, sites previously utilised for football demand or at sites which are not currently available for community use.
- ◀ Provide security of tenure for clubs using unsecure sites through community use agreements and support negotiation with private landowners and schools to secure appropriate access (e.g., via a community use agreement or lease arrangement).
- ◀ Improve ancillary facilities where there is a demand to do so, where there is strategic benefit on the exact need of that site and where it can benefit the wider footballing offer, prioritising multi-pitch sites and minimum provision of toilets.
- ◀ Improve quality and compliance of ancillary provision at key sites for women and girls' football to support growth within clubs.
- ◀ Where appropriate, develop partnerships and/or lease arrangements with large, sustainable, development-minded clubs to manage their own sites.
- ◀ Ensure that any housing developments are provided for as offsite contributions on an individual basis in line with the adopted Local Plan and Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

### **3G pitches**

<sup>3</sup> It should be noted that the PPOSS and PitchPower use different methodology when referring to pitch quality. This should be taken into consideration when agreeing the level of improvements required at any given site.



# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

### ***Supply and demand summary***

- ◀ Only three of the six full size 3G pitches in Burnley are fully available for community use and of those, Burnley College is assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ In conclusion, there is deemed to be sufficient 3G pitches to cater for demand in the North, East Burnley & Cliviger and West Burnley analysis area, whereas there is a potential shortfall in the Padiham & Hapton Analysis Area.

### **Supply**

- ◀ There are six full size 3G pitches in Burnley. Exactly half (three) of these pitches are located in the North Burnley Analysis Area.
- ◀ All pitches have sports lighting, however, only three are available for community use.
- ◀ There are also nine smaller size 3G pitches servicing Burnley, of which, seven are available for community use. The community available pitches are all serviced by sports lighting and are located at Crow Wood Leisure.
- ◀ In Burnley three full size pitches are on the FA 3G Pitch Register. One of the pitches at Prairie Sports Village is FA accredited whereas the other is FIFA accredited. There is a further FA accredited pitch located at Burnley College
- ◀ The FIFA accredited pitch at Prairie Sports Village is also World Rugby (WR) compliant and accommodates demand from Burnley Rugby Club.
- ◀ The 3G pitches at Burnley College, Shuttleworth College and Unity College are all managed internally by their respective schools, whereas the pitch at Barnfield Training Centre is managed by the Burnley FC. The remaining pitches at the Prairie Sports Village are managed by the Councils leisure provider Burnley Leisure.

### **Quality**

- ◀ There are three good quality full size 3G pitches in Burnley and three standard quality pitches.
- ◀ The ancillary amenities at the sites with community use, Prairie Sports Village and Burnley College, are rated as good quality with no issues arising during consultation.

### **Demand**

- ◀ The pitches at Prairie Sports Village are extensively used for affiliated football demand both for midweek training and competitive demand at the weekend. There is also some use of the WR compliant 3G pitch by Burnley Rugby Club on Tuesdays and Wednesday's evening for training.
- ◀ Similarly, the pitch at Burnley College is also used for affiliated football, however, it receives higher levels of informal/recreational demand in comparison to Prairie Sports Village.
- ◀ Although booking information could not be obtained for the small size provision it is known through club consultation that the pitches at Crow Wood Leisure (West Burnley Analysis Area) are used for training demand by Rosegrove FC.

### **Capacity**

- ◀ The full size 3G pitches currently available for community use in Burnley are all operating at, or close to, capacity at peak times, especially during winter months when grass pitches cannot be used for training or recreational demand (due to a lack of sports lighting).
- ◀ In Burnley all clubs that responded to consultation report that they require additional access to 3G provision, however, the exact number of teams that don't already access 3G pitches is unquantifiable.

### **Scenarios**



## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

### *Accommodating football training demand*

To satisfy current football training demand (based on the FA's model of one full size 3G pitch being able to cater for 38 teams) there is a need for three full size 3G pitches in Burnley.

Currently there are six full size 3G pitches of which only three are available for community use, these are at Burnley College and Prairie Sports Village (x2).

It should be noted that requirements and shortfalls throughout this scenario have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

*Table 4.8: Current demand for 3G pitches in Burnley (based on 38 teams per pitch)*

Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Current shortfall
127	3.34 (3)	3	0

As seen in the table above as there are already three currently in situ within the Authority, in principle there is no shortfall of full size 3G pitches when analysing on a Borough wide basis.

When considering future demand (based on population increases and future demand expressed by clubs), the demand for full size 3G pitches remains the same.

*Table 4.9: Future demand for 3G pitches in Burnley (based on 38 teams per pitch)*

Future number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Future shortfall
131	3.34 (3)	3	0

Alternatively, the tables below consider the number of 3G pitches required if every team was to remain training within the respective analysis area that they play in. This not only identifies where the needs exist across Burnley, but it can also be used to guide which areas should be targeted for new provision.

*Table 4.10: Current demand for 3G pitches in Burnley by analysis area*

Analysis area	Current number of teams	Current requirement	Current number of available full size 3G pitches	Current shortfall
North Burnley	74	2	3	0
Padiham & Hapton	29	1	0	1
East Burnley & Cliviger	15	0	0	0
South Burnley	0	0	0	0
West Burnley	9	0	0	0

This identifies that the current supply in the North Burnley Analysis Area is sufficient to cater for current demand whilst, there is a potential shortfall in the Padiham & Hapton Analysis Area of one full size 3G pitch.

*Table 4.11: Future demand for 3G pitches in Burnley by analysis area*

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Analysis area	Future number of teams	Future requirement	Current number of available full size 3G pitches	Future shortfall
North Burnley	76	2	3	0
Padiham & Hapton	31	1	0	1
East Burnley & Cliviger	15	0	0	0
South Burnley	0	0	0	0
West Burnley	9	0	0	0

When considering future demand, the overall shortfall remains the same, with a potential shortfall of one full size 3G pitch in the Padiham & Hapton Analysis Area.

It should be noted that the demand generated within the East Burnley & Cliviger and West Burnley analysis areas will use provision within North Burnley to meet their requirements or alternatively use small size provision at Crow Wood Leisure (West Burnley).

Consultation from the PPOSS (Council/LFA/Clubs) indicates the ideal locations for a potential development of new 3G provision could either be at Padiham Sports Ground or Fennyfold Playing Fields within the Padiham & Hapton Analysis Area. These sites were also identified within the 2019 Local Football Facility Plan as the preferred sites to explore new 3G provision.

### *Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP 2019)*

As mentioned previously, the 2019 LFFP for Burnley identified the following for potential full size 3G pitch development:

- ◀ The Arbories Memorial Sports Ground - Padiham Sports Club or Fennyfold Playing Fields (Padiham & Hapton Analysis Area) - New
- ◀ Burnley College (North Burnley Analysis Area) - Refurbish

As the LFFP is a live document to be informed by the PPOSS, the priority project list should be revisited following this study and updated/amended based on the findings, if necessary.

The pitch at Burnley College has not been refurbished since the 2019 LFFP and therefore the actions against this site need to remain the same.

Findings from the PPOSS indicates that since the 2019 LFFP the hockey suitable AGP at Shuttleworth College (Padiham & Hapton Analysis Area) has been resurfaced to 3G. This pitch has been identified in the PPOSS as not available for wider community use despite being used for Burnley FC women's and girls' teams (U10, U12, U14 and U16s).

Several consultation attempts were made with the College; however, these were unsuccessful. Therefore, at this stage it is unknown to why the provision is unavailable for wider external usage or if the College is open to allowing more access.

This needs to be explored in greater detail within the Stage E process. If full community access can be agreed at Shuttleworth College there would not be a requirement for any new 3G provision within the Padiham & Hapton Analysis Area.

Conversely if the College confirms it will not allow access there would still be a shortfall of one full size 3G pitch meaning the 2019 LFFP proposed project remains valid.

### *Rugby compliant 3G pitches*

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

World Rugby (WR) produced the 'performance specification for artificial grass pitches for rugby', more commonly known as 'Regulation 22' that provides the necessary technical detail to produce pitch systems that are appropriate for rugby union.

There is currently one WR compliant 3G pitch in Burnley at Prairie Sports Village, with use of the pitch for training through imported demand from Burnley Rugby Club which resides on the Burnley boundary with Pendle. The pitch should be protected and continue to be tested for WR compliance to ensure continued support for rugby union activity by Burnley Rugby Club.

### ***Recommendations***

- ◀ Protect current stock of 3G pitches.
- ◀ Explore securing community access to the full size 3G pitch at Shuttleworth College. If this cannot be obtained look to develop new 3G provision within the Padiham & Hapton Analysis Area to alleviate identified shortfalls.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches are constructed to meet FA recommended dimensions and quality performance standards to meet performance testing criteria.
- ◀ Seek to resurface existing stock of 3G pitches that have exceeded recommended lifespan in particular the full size pitch at Burnley College.
- ◀ Ensure all 3G providers have a sinking fund in place for long-term sustainability.
- ◀ Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are on the FA 3G Pitch Register are re-tested every three years to sustain certification.
- ◀ Ensure that all existing and new pitches that are World Rugby compliant are re-tested every two years to sustain certification.
- ◀ Ensure continued usage for Burnley Rugby Club training and competitive demand, when required/available, of the WR compliant 3G at Prairie Sports Village.
- ◀ Ensure that any new 3G pitches developed with external funding have community use agreements in place and seek to use this to also tie in access to grass pitch and other sporting provision, where relevant.

### **Cricket pitches**

#### ***Supply and demand summary***

- ◀ **Overall, there is currently insufficient capacity of natural turf cricket squares to meet current or future demand for club cricket at a Borough wide level. Capacity cannot meet demand for Saturday or Sunday senior cricket or midweek junior cricket.**

#### ***Supply***

- ◀ There are five grass wicket squares in Burnley located across four sites all of which are available for community use. There is one double pitch site at Towneley Park Playing Fields.
- ◀ In Burnley, there is one NTP which accompanies a grass wicket square, as well as three standalone NTPs.
- ◀ It should be noted that historically Shuttleworth College, Sir John Thursby Community College and Unity College have all accommodated grass cricket squares, however, during non-technical site assessments and consultation it was found that these are no longer maintained.
- ◀ All clubs in Burnley are considered to have secure tenure at their home venues through either ownership (one club) or long-term leasehold (three years or more remaining, two clubs).
- ◀ Of the five squares available for community use, three grass squares are rated as good quality (60%) and two are rated as poor quality (40%).

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

- ◀ The two squares at Towneley Park Playing Fields are rated as poor quality as they are not permanently maintained or prepared consistently throughout the cricket season.
- ◀ Burnley CC and Padiham CC aspire to improve their practice facilities.

### **Demand**

- ◀ Across the three clubs there are 32 teams which access pitch provision in Burnley, made up of ten senior men's, one senior women's and 21 junior boys' teams.
- ◀ The Burnley District Cricket League takes place on grass cricket wickets cut and marked on Towneley Park Playing Fields.
- ◀ There are a number of representative teams and school teams which access grass square provision across the Borough on an irregular basis. Notably, Lancashire County Cricket Club Age Groups, Lancashire League Team, Healthy Heroes Army Veterans, Unity College and Sir John Thursby Community College.
- ◀ There are no recorded teams exporting demand outside of Burnley to play cricket, however, as referenced above there is a partial amount of participation exporting to Wood CC (Burnley) to play in the Manchester T25 and T35 competitions. This demand is likely to remain exported as long as the club aspires to play in the aforementioned shorter format competitions.

### **Capacity**

- ◀ There is actual spare capacity to accommodate additional match play demand on Sundays in Burnley at The Arbories Memorial Sports Ground - Padiham Sports Club.
- ◀ Both senior and junior wickets at The Arbories Memorial Sports Ground - Padiham Sports Club have actual spare capacity to accommodate additional use during the week for midweek cricket.
- ◀ There are three sites in Burnley considered to be overplayed for senior cricket by a total of 21 match equivalent sessions per season.
- ◀ There are two sites in Burnley considered to be overplayed for junior cricket by a total of 22 match equivalent sessions per season.

### **Scenarios**

#### *Addressing overplay*

There are three sites in Burnley considered to be overplayed by a total of 15 match equivalent sessions per season on senior wickets and 22 match equivalents sessions on junior wickets.

*Table 4.12: Summary of overplay*

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Site ID	Site name	Analysis area	Number of squares	Overplay (matches per season)
<b>Senior wickets (Saturday/Sunday)</b>				
30	Lowerhouse Cricket Club - The Brooks Foundation Ground	Padiham & Hapton	1	3
43	Towneley Park Playing Fields	East Burnley & Cliviger	2	6
44	Burnley Cricket Club	East Burnley & Cliviger	1	12
<b>Total</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Junior wickets (Midweek)</b>				
30	Lowerhouse Cricket Club - The Brooks Foundation Ground	Padiham & Hapton	1	15
44	Burnley Cricket Club	East Burnley & Cliviger	1	7
<b>Total</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>22</b>

As a guide, those which display overplay of less than 10 matches per season, and have a good quality square, such as the senior wickets at Lowerhouse Cricket Club and the junior wickets at Burnley Cricket Club are generally able to sustain this with appropriate and rigorous maintenance.

As both squares, at club sites, are good quality there can be now further capacity added through qualitative improvements, however, it should be noted that they still require sufficient levels of maintenance to sustain their current quality.

In comparison, improving the squares at Towneley Park Playing Fields to a minimum of standard quality would fully alleviate the overplay on the site. However, an alternative solution could be installing non turf wickets (NTPs) on the site, which will be outlined in greater detail later in the section.

Although not readily available within grassroots cricket, there may be potential in the future to address overplay through the installation of hybrid wicket/s on competitive senior squares. The ECB has been working with SIS Pitches on the installation of hybrid cricket wickets at county cricket clubs (2019) and more recently recreational squares such as Perry Hall Park in Birmingham (2021).

A hybrid wicket combines natural turf grass with less than 5% of uniquely engineered, soft polyethylene yarn, which has already been used to improve golf tees, tennis courts and pitch surrounds. These wickets are to offer a greater capacity in addition to reducing time on repair works with a faster recovery time. Reports found that hybrid wickets improve surface stability, reduced wear, reduced bowler foot holes and significantly extended hours of playing time.

Ideally, once these become more readily available for community cricket clubs and have gone through the required testing, they could act as a way to increase levels of playing capacity on overplay squares. This would be particularly beneficial for those sites which are limited on space and cannot create additional wickets due to restrictions on things such as boundary length or ball strike.

Although it is difficult at this stage to understand what impact hybrid wickets could have on each site's capacity, it is suggested that it could potentially alleviate all the overplay on both junior and senior wickets. This is based on the assumption that more senior demand can

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

take place on the hybrid wickets allowing for the outer senior wickets to be used/converted for junior demand.

### *Unaffiliated and recreational cricket (NTPs)*

A solution to alleviating the remaining overplay could be to consider installing NTPs at these sites. As each of the club squares is overplayed by less than 60 match equivalent sessions per season, all overplay could be alleviated through the installation of a wicket (as a non-turf wicket has capacity for 60 match equivalent sessions per season). Albeit each site does currently have a NTP meaning there is a clear recommendation for greater utilisation of the provision to lessen overplay. This being said it is a potential solution for Towneley Park Playing Fields.

There is demand for recreational cricket in Burnley, mainly from the Burnley District Cricket League, meaning this activity also needs to be considered together with the formal elements of the game.

To ensure that this is the case, current plans to install NTPs at parks sites across the Borough should be supported. Although, Burnley Cricket League should be consulted to understand if the league requires grass wicket provision.

Installing NTPs rather than improving grass wicket quality is a more cost effective way in providing capacity and alleviating overplay without having to maintain the provision on a regular basis.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of cricket squares.
- ◀ Improve quality at sites assessed as standard and poor and ensure quality is sustained at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Look to reduce overplay through an increase in NTPs accompanying grass wickets and/or the installation of hybrid wickets to increase capacity.
- ◀ Create additional NTPs to support the recreational and informal game with particular focus on Towneley Park Playing Fields (consultation required with relevant stakeholders LCB / ECB / Burnley District Cricket League to ensure they would be utilised).
- ◀ Enhance ancillary provision where required.
- ◀ Continue to support ECB initiatives such as All Stars and Dynamos and ensure unaffiliated demand and recreational cricket is provided for.
- ◀ Where a development is not of a size to justify on-site cricket provision, or if sufficient demand cannot be attracted, consider using contributions to improve existing sites within the locality.
- ◀ Ensure that any developments nearby to existing or new cricket sites do not prejudice the use of the provision (e.g. through ball-strike issues).
- ◀ Planning obligations must only be sought where they meet the following test: (a) necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms, (b) directly related to the development and (c) fairly and reason related in scale and kind to the development (paragraph 57, NPPF).

### **Rugby union - grass pitches**



# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

### ***Supply and demand summary***

- ◀ **There is sufficient capacity for rugby union pitches to meet current and anticipated future demand.**
- ◀ **Despite there being spare capacity it should be noted that the pitch at Prairie Sports Village should remain in situ in order to accommodate the infrequent imported demand from Burnley RFC.**

### **Supply**

- ◀ In total, there are three grass rugby union pitches in Burnley across two sites. There is one senior pitch and two junior size pitches.
- ◀ There is just one senior pitch identified as being available for community rugby union activity, which is located outside of a club setting at Prairie Sports Village. The junior pitches are unavailable for community use located at the educational site Unity College.
- ◀ At present, Burnley Leisure manage the only community available rugby provision in the Borough at Prairie Sports Village.

### **Quality**

- ◀ The one community available pitch in the Borough is assessed as standard quality (M1/D1), whereas the pitches not available for community use are rated as poor quality (M1/D0).

### **Demand**

- ◀ There are no affiliated community rugby union clubs based within the Borough. Although Burnley Rugby Club lies just beyond the boundary, based within Pendle Borough Council.
- ◀ The majority of this competitive demand is located at the Club's main site, however, when required it accesses the senior grass rugby union pitch at Prairie Sports Village. This is often when there is fixture congestion or if there is a requirement to protect pitch quality at Burnley Rugby Club. This demand is classified as imported into the Authority.
- ◀ Similarly, the Club also imports training demand during the winter onto the WR compliant 3G pitch at Prairie Sports Village.

### **Capacity**

- ◀ In Burnley the only pitch to have spare capacity is the senior rugby union pitch at Prairie Sports Village. This pitch is considered to have one match equivalent session of spare capacity. The ad hoc usage by Burnley RFC is not a regular occurrence meaning the pitch is more often than not readily available to accommodate additional demand.
- ◀ Due to the lack of community rugby union demand within Burnley there is considered to be no overplayed provision within the Authority.

### **Scenarios**

N/A

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of rugby union pitches.
- ◀ Ensure continued use of rugby union provision for Burnley Rugby Club activity at Prairie Sports Village (3G and grass provision) to help support the club.
- ◀ Ensure that any large housing developments are provided for and assess the need for new pitch provision through master planning on an individual basis, in line with the adopted Local Plan and Developer Contributions SPD.

### **Hockey pitches (sand/water-based AGPs)**

### ***Supply and demand summary***

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

- ◀ **It is evident that there is not currently a requirement for hockey suitable AGPs in Burnley on a community sport level. However, it is also clear that quality is affecting their use and therefore it is highly likely that if quality was improved, so to would usage (although not necessarily for hockey).**

### **Supply**

- ◀ There are four full size sand based AGPs across three sites in Burnley, all of which, have sports lighting.
- ◀ Since the previous Playing Pitch Strategy, the full size hockey suitable AGPs at Shuttleworth College (Padiham & Hapton Analysis Area) and Unity College (East Burnley & Cliviger) have been converted to 3G surfaces.
- ◀ All pitches are considered to have unsecure tenure due to their issues surrounding management.

### **Quality**

- ◀ All full size hockey suitable AGPs in Burnley are poor quality with each pitch receiving minimal levels of maintenance in addition to being over their recommended life span (10 years).

### **Demand**

- ◀ There are no community hockey clubs based in Burnley. The nearest club is Pendle Forest HC which is based in the neighbouring authority of Pendle.

### **Capacity**

- ◀ As there are no hockey clubs playing in Burnley, community demand is almost exclusively football related, although there is a prominent netball club/league also using the provision at Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus.

## **Scenarios**

### *Accommodating hockey demand*

Pendle Forest HC is currently playing within the Borough of Pendle, although it highlights a number of its members travel from Burnley. The Club suggests that its current agreement at Pendle Vale College is unsecure and therefore, it is looking for an alternative home venue which can offer secure tenure.

The Club reports that in the past it has had discussions with Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus for use of its pitch, however, this pitch is undersized and does not meet EH guidelines. For reference Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic College, Hameldon Community College and Sir John Thursby Community College each accommodate one hockey suitable AGP of sufficient size to accommodate community hockey demand. The Club is open to relocating into the Borough if it could gain secure use at a site.

Due to all pitches within Burnley being assessed as poor quality, for Pendle Forest HC to relocate it would require resurfacing a pitch of sufficient size to meet EH guidelines. Further consultation is required with the Club and stakeholders from Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic College, Hameldon Community College and Sir John Thursby Community College to understand if it feasible for it to have security of tenure at one of the sites. If an agreement can be reached the next step would be to examine potential avenues to refurbish pitch quality.

### *Netball demand*

Explored in greater detail later in the section, it should be noted that there are substantial levels of netball demand within Burnley generated from Burnley Netball Club (affiliated) and



## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

Burnley Netball League (unaffiliated). Both currently use the hockey suitable provision at Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus and have referenced potentially using the provision at Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic College for future growth.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Look to protect the pitches at Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus and Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic College as hockey suitable surfaces and refurbish them as required.
- ◀ Engage with relevant stakeholders to explore securing tenure for Pendle Forest HC in the Borough.
- ◀ Explore formalising long term community use at Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic College with consideration given to Burnley Netball League.
- ◀ Improve security of tenure for clubs using the provision at Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus and Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic College, in particular Burnley Netball League / Burnley NC.
- ◀ Encourage providers to have sinking funds in place at all sites to ensure long-term sustainability.

### **Tennis courts**

#### **Supply and demand summary**

- ◀ **In conclusion, capacity for both club and non-club tennis courts is able to meet current and future demand notwithstanding any quality/floodlighting demand.**

#### **Supply**

- ◀ There is a total of 35 tennis courts identified in Burnley across ten sites. Of these courts, 19 are identified as being available for community use, whilst 16 are identified as being unavailable.
- ◀ There are three disused shale tennis courts at Towneley Park (BB11 3ED) located between the two active bowling greens.
- ◀ Burnley LTC aspires to create some form of indoor provision at its site (Burnley Lawn Tennis Club) in order to provide greater levels of capacity and accessibility especially during periods of bad weather.
- ◀ The Council has been working with the LTA to access and identify sites which require investment within the Borough. The LTA identified the following four sites within Burnley: Queens Park, Park Road, Scott Park and Ightenhill Park.
- ◀ Most outdoor tennis courts in Burnley have a macadam surface, with 29 of the 35 courts (83% of all courts) of this type. Of the 19 community available courts, most are macadam surfaces (13 courts, 68%).

#### **Quality**

- ◀ Just under half of courts in Burnley are rated as poor quality (16 courts or 46%), six are rated as good quality (17%) and 13 are assessed as standard quality (37%).
- ◀ Courts are rated as poor quality at Barden Gardens, Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus, Shuttleworth College, Unity College, Scott Park.
- ◀ In total, seven of the 35 tennis courts in Burnley are serviced by sports lighting, representing 20% of all court provision.
- ◀ Most courts (13 courts, 37% of all courts) are within council ownership. There are 12 courts (34% of all courts) managed by educational sites, with six courts managed by the respective tennis club (17% of all courts). Finally, four courts are under private ownership at Hambeldon Community College.

#### **Capacity**

- ◀ There is one LTA affiliated tennis club in Burnley, Burnley LTC, which has a total of 266 members.

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

Burnley LTC reports that it aspires to increase its senior section by 40 members and its junior section a further 100 members.

### **Scenarios**

#### *LTA Investment*

In October 2021, the Government and the LTA announced a package of £30 million for investment and improvements for public tennis courts. The Government is to put £22 million whilst the LTA invest £8.4 million into the package. The investment is to be made into public tennis courts which are currently assessed as poor or unplayable quality, the investment will be to bring the courts back to a quality that will benefit the local community.

Using the above funding the LTA has developed a package of support for LAs to grow the use of park tennis courts by removing key barriers to participation. The three products are ClubSpark, Rally and Gate Access and can be used individually or in combination. The products are used to provide a remote booking and access system.

Instead of providing free access, some local authorities are now securing their courts as per a membership scheme that allows members access through the use of a fob system following payment of a small yearly fee. Not only does this deter unofficial use of courts but it also allows official use to be tracked, thus providing data on how well and how often courts are being accessed. In addition, it provides income generation that can go towards ongoing maintenance of the courts.

Burnley Borough Council has identified four sites to be developed through the LTA Investment Scheme:

- ◀ Queens Park (North Burnley)
- ◀ Park Road (Padiham & Hapton)
- ◀ Scott Park (South Burnley)
- ◀ Ightenhill Park (West Burnley)

Capital funding has recently been approved by the LTA for the resurfacing of Scott Park, whilst Park Road will be repainted with new posts and nets being installed. Along with this, all four of the sites will have the LTA Gate Access system installed. The Council will manage bookings for the sites whilst, Burnley Lawn Tennis Club will conduct LTA endorsed coaching programmes across the two of the four sites. The booking of provision can also be accessed through an annual season ticket as well as a pay and play basis.

Evidence from the PPOSS confirms there is a need to improve the quality of courts in a non-club setting in order to enhance and develop participation and growth for tennis within Burnley. The sites listed above are all in differing analysis areas and will provide better opportunities for informal/recreational demand across the Borough as a whole.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs or that are (or could be) well used for recreational demand.
- ◀ Linked to the above, improve park courts as a priority to create a year-round recreational tennis option to meet local demand.
- ◀ Explore the feasibility of establishing some form of covered/indoor tennis provision at Burnley Lawn Tennis Club.

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

- ◀ Explore options to further improve the recreational tennis offer via utilisation of technology provided by the LTA (e.g., Clubspark) to support the customer journey and through investment into facilities and accompanying ancillary provision.
- ◀ Ensure sinking funds are put into place by providers for long-term sustainability.

### Netball courts

#### *Supply and demand summary*

- ◀ **In summary there is deemed a sufficient supply of courts to cater for current levels of demand, however, there are significant issues surrounding security of tenure for Burnley NC and Burnley Netball League at Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus.**

#### **Supply**

- ◀ There are 28 outdoor netball courts identified in Burnley across nine sites, of which, 13 are available for community use across two sites (Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus – North Burnley Analysis Area and Spirit of Sport Blessed Trinity – East Burnley & Cliviger Analysis Area).
- ◀ Most provision is in the North Burnley Analysis Area with a total of 11 courts.
- ◀ Although not uncommon across the Country, netball provision within the Borough is located on current or former educational sites.

#### **Quality**

- ◀ Most of the 23 courts are rated as poor quality with significant issues surrounding grip, court markings and evidence of moss/lichen. The remaining five courts are rated as standard quality.
- ◀ Burnley Netball League indicates the equipment (goals/nets etc) it uses at Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus will need replacing within the next three to five years.
- ◀ The ten courts are accompanied by sports lighting these are located at the two sites widely available for community use: Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus with seven courts and Spirit of Sport Blessed Trinity with three courts.
- ◀ The majority (21 courts or 75%) of outdoor netball courts in Burnley have a macadam surface.

#### **Demand**

- ◀ Burnley NC is currently based out of Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus and organises the Burnley Netball League, England Netball reports that the league is currently unaffiliated.
- ◀ The Burnley Netball League is an outdoor summer league which operates out of Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus. It has three divisions with a total of 29 teams across it. The League matches take place on Tuesday evenings from 6pm-9pm.
- ◀ Play Netball also operates a league at the Spirit of Sport on Monday nights from 7pm-9pm.
- ◀ Sport England's Market Segmentation Tool identifies latent demand of 274 people who would like to participate in the sport within Burnley.

### **Scenarios**

#### *Loss of access at Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus*

As mentioned in the Assessment Report there are substantial levels of netball demand on the hockey suitable AGP at Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus from Burnley Netball League (unaffiliated) and Burnley NC. Both of which annually rent the use of the provision and do not have long term tenure on the site.

This was not seen as overly problematic until the management of the site altered following the folding of the Community Hub. Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus is now controlled by

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

Lancashire County Council. Although community access is continuing at the time of writing this report, it is anticipated that if access were to be lost, the netball league would reduce in numbers or even fold. It is therefore recommended that long term tenure is secured for the community users.

This being said an alternative perspective would be for the League to secure tenure at Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic College as mentioned under the Hockey scenarios.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect existing quantity of courts.
- ◀ Improve court quality at sites assessed as poor or standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good, especially at sites in use by clubs and for England Netball initiatives.
- ◀ Improve security of tenure for Burnley Netball League / Burnley NC at Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus.
- ◀ Explore formalising long term community use at Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic College with consideration given to Burnley Netball League.
- ◀ Explore the potential of formally affiliating Burnley Netball League to England Netball.
- ◀ Explore options to provide the Burnley Netball League with additional court space, potential via additional venues such as the hockey suitable pitch at Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic College.

### **Bowls greens**

#### **Supply and demand summary**

- ◀ **There is currently sufficient capacity for crown bowling greens to meet both current and future demand.**
- ◀ **There are three bowling clubs with circa 20 members or fewer which require support to ensure that they remain viable despite a low membership base.**

#### **Supply**

- ◀ There are 18 bowling greens in Burnley located across 13 sites.
- ◀ There are double green sites at Queens Park (Burnley), Ightenhill Park, Stoneyholme BC, Towneley Park Causeway End.
- ◀ A further two greens at Barden Gardens are identified as being disused.
- ◀ There are eight bowling greens in Burnley which are owned and managed by bowls clubs.
- ◀ The Council currently owns and manages ten operational greens across the Borough. Of these, three clubs, Stoneyholme BC, Queensgate BC and Briercliffe BC (Briercliffe Memorial Bowling Club) report that they have lease agreements for use of their greens.
- ◀ Following a non-technical assessment of greens in Burnley and cross referencing the findings against club consultation, most greens (ten or 55%) are rated as standard quality, with eight greens rated as good quality and no greens rated as poor quality.
- ◀ Ighten Mount BC is the only green with sports lighting in the Borough.

#### **Demand**

- ◀ There are 13 bowling clubs playing in Burnley. Where known, membership of these clubs' totals 376 with the average number of members being 31.
- ◀ Of responding clubs, eight clubs (66%) highlight aspirations to increase membership, however, none specifically quantify this with a number of members.
- ◀ The Burnley Sports Partnership supports the development of bowls within the Borough.
- ◀ Sport England's Market Segmentation Tool enables analysis of 'the percentage of adults that would like to participate in bowls but are not currently doing so'. The tool identifies latent demand of 159 people who would like to participate in the sport within Burnley.

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

### **Capacity**

- ◀ St Andrews BC is operating at or above recommended capacity levels, with usage needing to be monitored to ensure that supply remains adequate.

### **Scenarios**

#### *Club sustainability*

The British Crown Green Bowling Association suggests that clubs operating with a membership of below 20 could be unsustainable. Padiham, Causeway End and Scott Park bowling clubs are all operating below or near this membership level and could therefore be considered at risk of folding. Assistance should be provided to these clubs in attempts to raise the levels of participation to more sustainable levels.

For some authorities, an amalgamation of clubs can often be a solution when numerous clubs are struggling for membership within a locality. If membership numbers at these clubs continues to decrease consideration should be given to club consolidation.

#### *Disused provision*

Two disused bowling greens are identified in Burnley, with these both being at Barden Gardens. As no clubs' express demand for an additional green, in addition to low levels of demand for the greens to be re-established, evidence exists to suggest that these could be re-purposed for meet other sporting demand such as recreational football and cricket.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Protect all existing used greens.
- ◀ Improve green quality at sites assessed as poor and standard quality and sustain quality at sites assessed as good.
- ◀ Seek to improve ancillary facility quality where it is necessary e.g., at Towneley Park Bowling Green, Lowerhouse BC and Greenhill Bowling Club.
- ◀ Support clubs operating with a high membership to ensure demand continues to be met on their existing provision.
- ◀ Assist clubs with lower levels of membership such as Padiham, Causeway End and Scott Park bowling clubs in increasing membership levels to become more sustainable.
- ◀ As there is no demand warranted to reinstate the disused greens at Barden Gardens look to repurpose them to meet recreational sports demand for football and cricket.
- ◀ Support the Burnley Bowls Partnership's involvement in developing bowls initiatives and helping clubs with low membership become more sustainable.

### **Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs)**

#### ***Supply and demand summary***

- ◀ **There are shortfalls within the East Burnley & Cliviger and Padiham & Hapton analysis areas against a 700m walk time catchment.**

#### ***Supply***

- ◀ Across Burnley there is a total of 28 MUGAs.

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

- ◀ Of the 28 MUGAs across Burnley all but one is managed by the Borough Council and available as open access meaning they do not need to be booked. The one at Burnley Boys & Girls Club is managed by the Club itself

### **Quality**

- ◀ In total across Burnley, 16 MUGAs are assessed as standard quality, whilst 11 are assessed as poor quality with significant issues surrounding grip, court markings and evidence of moss/lichen, whilst one court is assessed as good quality.

### **Demand**

- ◀ A total of 31% of the Borough's population (or 28,089 people) has no MUGA facility within a 700m metre catchment.
- ◀ East Burnley & Cliviger and Padiham & Hapton analysis areas have significant gaps in coverage of MUGAs. Analysis suggests that both analysis areas have less than 50% of the population within a 700 metre walking distance of a MUGA.

### **Scenarios**

#### *Football Foundation PlayZones Programme*

The Football Foundation, using investment from the Premier League, The FA and the Government via Sport England has released a new (2022) capital investment programme called the PlayZones Programme. This programme aims to engage with local communities across the Country to create outstanding sports and activity spaces and tackle inequalities in participation. The priority groups for the funding are:

- ◀ Lower socio-economic groups
- ◀ Disabled people with long term health conditions
- ◀ Women and girls
- ◀ Ethnically diverse communities

In partnership with The FF, the Council is now seeking to progress a number of innovative multi use games facilities through the FF Playzone Programme. Insight from this work should be used to inform future versions of the LFFP. In the previous Burnley LFFP, the following sites were identified for MUGA developments:

- ◀ Burnley College
- ◀ Burnley Football Club Community Sports Trust (Turf Moor)
- ◀ Burnley Boys & Girls Club
- ◀ Abel Street
- ◀ Rossendale Road
- ◀ Mitella Street
- ◀ Stoneyholme Community Centre
- ◀ Whittlefield Recreation Ground

Since the production of the LFFP the MUGA at Burnley College has been built upon and therefore should be removed with any update of the document. Furthermore, it is recommended that Barden Gardens is added to the list. This site has been identified as potential to be refurbished in conjunction with England Netball due to its proximity to the main netball site in the Borough (Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus). If refurbished it would create opportunities for informal participation in local communities.

### **Recommendations**

- ◀ Look to improve the quality of MUGAs across Burnley and work with relevant stakeholders to establish new provision in areas not currently serviced.
- ◀ Target those MUGAs identified within the PlayZones funding for improvements and update the LFFP as relevant.
- ◀ Look to add Barden Gardens MUGA to PlayZones/LFFP for development.



## **BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

---

- ◀ Examine establishing MUGAs identified in the LFFP at Burnley Football Club Community Sports Trust (Turf Moor) and Rossendale Road.

### **Other grass pitch sports**

#### ***Supply and demand summary***

- ◀ **Levels of provision for American football and rounders are considered sufficient to meet current and future levels of demand.**

#### ***Supply***

- ◀ In Burnley there are currently no American football clubs which play within the Borough. As a result, there are currently no dedicated American football pitches in the Borough.
- ◀ There are eight rounders pitches across two sites in Burnley. Burnley Leisure reports that both sites have the capacity for four marked pitches, at present three pitches are marked due to costing. The League rotates pitches throughout the summer to reduce the wear and tear on each pitch.

#### ***Demand***

- ◀ Burnley Tornados American FC operate four junior teams, two flag teams at Under 12 and Under 14 and two contact teams at Under 16 and Under 19. In addition, the Club extends into adult contact American football at 8v8 level under the Pennine Panthers name. All teams home base for matches and training is Nelson and Colne Rugby Club (Pendle).
- ◀ There are currently 17 rounders teams which play within the Burnley Rounders League. At present, seven teams play in the Monday League at Prairie Sports Village, whilst ten teams play in the Wednesday League at Towneley Park Playing Fields.
- ◀ Burnley Leisure reports that since the Covid-19 Pandemic the League has lost close to 50% of its teams, with upwards of 30 teams previously participating in the League, it does however suggest that it had started to see a drop in teams in the summer of 2019.
- ◀ Burnley Rounders Club is currently working with Rounders England to gain a grant to help increase rounders participation in the Borough. It plans to establish a Junior Rounders League for Under 13s, whilst also introducing an introduction and return to rounders session.

#### ***Scenarios***

N/A

#### ***Recommendations***

- ◀ Ensure rounders provision is marked out and maintained at Prairie Sports Village and Towneley Park Playing Fields.

### PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The strategic recommendations for the Strategy have been developed via the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and analysis which culminated in the production of an assessment report, as well as key drivers identified for the Strategy. They reflect overarching and common areas to be addressed, which apply across outdoor sports facilities and may not be specific to just one sport.

#### OBJECTIVE 1

To **protect** the existing supply of outdoor sport provision and ancillary facilities where it is needed for meeting current and future needs

#### Recommendations:

- a. Ensure, through the use of the PPOSS, that playing pitches and outdoor sport facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.
- b. Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs, through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.
- c. Maximise community use of education facilities where needed.

#### **Recommendation (a) – Ensure, through the use of the PPOSS, that playing pitches and outdoor sport facilities are protected through the implementation of local planning policy.**

The PPOSS Assessment shows that all currently used outdoor sports sites require protection and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because shortfalls would occur both now and, in the future, if they were lost. Consideration should also be given to the protection of disused/unmarked sites from development or replacement as they may offer potential to meet shortfalls, particularly for football and cricket, in the future. This being said, it is possible to replace provision as long as it meets Sport England Playing Field Policy/NPPF/Local Plan guidelines around mitigation (Replacement by equivalent or better provision).

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Paragraph 99 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- ◀ An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
- ◀ The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- ◀ The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.

Should outdoor sports facilities be taken out of use for any reason (e.g. Borough Council budget restraints), land should ideally be retained so that it can be brought back into use in the future.



## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

Although there are some identified shortfalls of match equivalent sessions i.e. football pitches, most demand is currently being met and most shortfalls are likely able to be addressed through quality improvements. It is therefore, not recommended as a priority to identify 'new' sites for provision.

The PPOSS should be used to help inform Development Management decisions that affect existing or new outdoor sports and ancillary facilities. All applications are assessed by the Local Planning Authority on a case by case basis taking into account site specific factors. In addition, Sport England is a statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of playing fields and will use the PPOSS to help assess that planning application against its Playing Fields Policy<sup>4</sup>.

Sport England's Playing Fields Policy exception E1 only allows for development of disused playing fields if a Playing Pitch Strategy (in this case PPOSS) shows a clear excess in the quantity of playing pitch provision at present and in the future across all playing pitch sport types and sizes. Alternatively, a development would need to fall under one of the other Policy Exceptions (outlined below).

As well as Sport England Playing Fields and NPPF policies there is also a need to meet Local Plan policy as this is what any application would be assessed against.

### *Policy Exception E1:*

'A carefully quantified and documented assessment of current and future needs has demonstrated to the satisfaction of Sport England that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport'.

Where the PPOSS cannot demonstrate that the site, or part of a site, is clearly surplus to requirements then replacement of the site, or part of a site, will be required to comply with the remaining Sport England policy exceptions.

### *Policy Exception E2*

'The proposed development is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field and does not affect the quantity and quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use'.

### *Policy Exception E3*

'The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming part of a playing pitch and does not:

- ◀ Reduce the size of any playing pitch.
- ◀ Result in the inability to use any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins and run-off areas).
- ◀ Reduce the sporting capacity of the playing field to accommodate playing pitches or the capability to rotate or reposition playing pitches to maintain quality.
- ◀ Result in the loss of other sporting provision or ancillary facilities on the site.
- ◀ Prejudice the use of any remaining areas of playing field on the site'.

---

<sup>4</sup>[https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#playing\\_fields\\_policy](https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#playing_fields_policy)

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

### *Policy Exception E4:*

'The playing field or fields to be lost as a result of the proposed development would be replaced, prior to the commencement of development, by a new playing field site or sites:

- ◀ of equivalent or better quality and
- ◀ of equivalent or greater quantity;
- ◀ in a suitable location and;
- ◀ subject to equivalent or better management arrangements.

### *Policy Exception E5*

'The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor facility for sport, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss, or prejudice of use, of the area of playing field'.

### *Disused sites*

Disused sites will also be considered in accordance with Sport England's policy exceptions. They provide a potential solution to reducing any identified shortfalls for football and rugby union. A disused site is a site where pitches were once, but are no longer, marked out and remain undeveloped.

Any disused playing fields are included within the Action Plan together with a recommendation in relation to potentially bringing the site back into use or to mitigate the loss on a replacement site to address the shortfalls identified.

### **Recommendation (b) – Secure tenure and access to sites through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.**

A number of school, commercial and private sites are being used in Burnley for competitive play, predominantly for football. In some cases, use of such facilities has been classified as secure; however, it is not necessarily formalised and relevant organisations should seek to establish appropriate community use agreements, including access to changing provision where required/available. This is especially the case for sites that have unsecured community use despite receiving high levels of use, such as at Shuttleworth College and Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus.

For unsecure sites, NGBs, Sport England and other appropriate bodies such as Burnley Leisure Trust and the Football Foundation can often help to negotiate and engage with providers where the local authority may not have direct influence. This is particularly the case at sites that have received funding from these bodies or are going to receive funding in the future as community access can be a condition of any agreement.

In the context of the Comprehensive Spending Review, which announced public spending cuts, it is increasingly important for the Council to work with voluntary sector organisations to enable them to take greater levels of ownership and support the wider development and maintenance of facilities. To facilitate this, where practical, it should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds, providing that this is to the benefit of sport.

The Council should further explore opportunities where security of tenure could be granted via lease agreements (minimum 25 years as recommended by Sport England and NGBs) so that clubs are in a position to apply for external funding. This is particularly the case at poor quality local authority sites, possibly with inadequate or no ancillary facilities, so that quality can be improved and sites developed.

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

Local sports clubs should be supported by partners including the Council, NGBs or Burnley Leisure Trust to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership work. For example, club development should be supported, and clubs should be encouraged to develop evidence of business and sports development plans to generate income via their facilities.

All clubs could be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC)<sup>5</sup>. They should also be encouraged to work with partners locally, such as volunteer support agencies or local businesses.

For clubs with lease arrangements already in place, these should be reviewed when fewer than 25 years remain on existing agreements to secure extensions, thus improving security of tenure and helping them attract funding for site development. Any club with less than 25 years remaining on an agreement is unlikely to gain any external funding (unless the agreement has been recently entered into).

Each club interested in leasing a council site should be required to meet service and/or strategic recommendations. An additional set of criteria should also be considered, which takes into account club quality, aligned to its long-term development objectives and sustainability, as seen in the table below.

*Table 5.1: Recommended criteria for lease of council sport sites to clubs/organisations*

Club	Site
<p>Clubs should have Club Matters/NGBs accreditation award.</p> <p>Clubs commit to meeting demonstrable local demand and show pro-active commitment to developing school-club links.</p> <p>Clubs are sustainable, both in a financial sense and via their internal management structures in relation to recruitment and retention policy for both players and volunteers.</p> <p>Ideally, clubs should have already identified any match funding required for initial capital investment identified.</p> <p>Clubs have processes in place to ensure capacity to maintain sites to the existing, or better, standards.</p>	<p>Sites should be those identified as 'Local Sites' (recommendation d) for new clubs (i.e., not those with a Borough wide significance) but that offer development potential.</p> <p>For established clubs which have proven success in terms of self-management 'Key Centres' are also appropriate.</p> <p>As a priority, sites should acquire capital investment to improve (which can be attributed to the presence of a Club Matter/Charter Standard club).</p> <p>Sites should be leased with the intention that investment can be sourced to contribute towards improvement of the site.</p>

The Council could establish a series of core outcomes to derive from clubs taking on a lease arrangement to ensure that the most appropriate clubs are assigned to sites. As an example outcomes may include:

- ◀ Increasing participation.
- ◀ Supporting the development of coaches and volunteers.
- ◀ Commitment to quality standards.
- ◀ Improvements (where required) to facilities, or as a minimum retaining existing standards.

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/cascbenefits>

## **BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

---

In addition, clubs should be made fully aware of the associated responsibilities/liabilities when considering leases of multi-use public playing fields. It is important in these instances that the sites remains available for other purposes and for other users.

### **Recommendation (c) - Maximise community use of education facilities where needed**

To maximise community use a more coherent, structured relationship with schools is recommended. The ability to access good facilities within the local community is vital to any sports organisation, yet many clubs struggle to find good quality places to play and train. In Burnley, pricing policies at facilities can be a barrier to access at some education sites but physical access, poor quality and resistance from schools to open up provision is also an issue, especially at some private schools and academies.

Many sporting facilities are located on education sites and making these available to sports clubs can offer significant benefits to both the schools and local clubs, as well helping to reduce identified shortfalls. It is, however, common for school provision not to be fully maximised for community use, even on established community use sites.

In some instances, facilities are unavailable for community use due to poor quality and therefore remedial works will be required before it can be established. The low carrying capacity of these facilities sometimes leads to them being played to capacity or overplayed simply due to curricular and extra-curricular use, meaning they cannot accommodate any additional use by the community.

As a priority, community use options should be explored at large schools offering numerous or significant pitch stock, such as the 3G at Shuttleworth College. Securing access to such sites will significantly reduce shortfalls throughout the analysis areas that they are based within.

Although there are a growing number of academies over which the Council has little or no control, it is still important to understand the significance of such sites and attempt to work with the schools where there are opportunities for community use. In addition, relevant NGBs have a role to play in supporting the Council to deliver upon this recommendation and communicating with schools where necessary to address shortfalls in provision.

Where new schools are provided in major new residential developments, they should be designed to facilitate community access, with opportunities for meeting the community's outdoor sports needs explored at the outset to maximise the potential for facility provision to be made within the developments, if appropriate. An example of this is ensuring the provision of youth 11v11 and/or youth 9v9 grass football pitches, given current shortfalls and their suitability for the playing format of students.

As detailed earlier, NGBs, Burnley Leisure Trust and Sport England can often help to negotiate and engage with schools where the local authority may have limited direct influence. This is particularly the case at sites that have received funding from the relevant bodies or are going to receive funding in the future as community access can be a condition of the funding agreement.

### OBJECTIVE 2

To enhance outdoor sport provision and ancillary facilities through improving quality and management of sites

#### Recommendations:

- d. Improve quality
- e. Adopt a tiered approach (hierarchy of provision) to the management and improvement of sites.
- f. Work in partnership with stakeholders to secure funding
- g. Secure developer contributions.

#### ***Recommendation (d) – Improve quality***

There are several ways in which it is possible to increase pitch quality and these are explored below.

#### ***Ground Management Association (GMA) Pitch Advisory Service***

With quality of grass pitches becoming one of the biggest influences on participation, the Pitch Advisory Service (PAS, formerly the Grounds and Natural Turf Improvement Programme) was launched in 2014 and is funded by the GMA and its partners; the Football Foundation, Sport England, FA, ECB, RFU and RFL.

Its aim is to raise the standards of sports surfaces as well as the understanding of sports turf management practices among grassroots clubs across England and Wales. The PAS provides an enhanced network of support and expertise available to those maintaining natural turf pitches, particularly at a local level.

The service can be utilised by grassroots clubs, organisations and local authorities with the simple aim of improving the quality of grass pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide members of the programme with advice/practical solutions via a report which will also identify the key enhanced maintenance works required along with machinery requirements.

Pitch providers are encouraged to complete a self-assessment of pitches using the Football Foundation PitchPower app. In August 2022, PitchPower was re-launched, with enhanced capability to support use beyond football pitches and is now accessible for the assessment of natural turf pitches for cricket, rugby league and rugby union

In relation to cricket specifically, maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of the sport. If the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and, in some instances, become dangerous. The ECB recommends full technical assessments of wickets and pitches available through a Performance Quality Standard (PQS) assessment. The Performance Quality Standard Assessment assesses a cricket square to ascertain whether it meets the standards that are benchmarked by the Ground Management Association.

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

### *Football Foundation PitchPower Assessment*

The Premier League, The FA and the Football Foundation are increasing efforts to improve the quality of grass pitches in England with the launch of the PitchPower app. Launched in 2020 alongside the Football Foundation Pitch Preparation Fund, The app is a new digital self-assessment tool to allow reports and recommendations to be made more quickly and easily once submitted for review by GMA regional pitch advisors.

The tool across mobile app and desktop is open to access by all providers, for example clubs, schools and local authorities. Following a PitchPower Assessment Report, organisations can work towards the recommended dedicated maintenance regime identified to improve the quality of their pitches.

In addition to non-technical assessments, a second assessment was undertaken for grass football pitches in April 2021 at 16 local authority managed/publicly accessible sites using the Football Foundation PitchPower app. Consequently, technical recommendations have been established through the PPOSS process for the local authority to act upon in delivering any improvement, whilst this exists at some club managed sites already.

### *Football Foundation Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund (GPMF)*

Eligible clubs and organisations can also utilise the report as an evidence base to acquire potential funding streams, for example, to obtain the required maintenance equipment. If a PitchPower assessment categorises pitches as 'poor' or 'basic' they are then eligible to apply for funding through the Football Foundation through the Grass Pitch Maintenance Fund<sup>6</sup>, a fund offering six-year tapered grants to help clubs enhance or sustain the quality of their grass pitches. The fund is a key part of the Football Foundation's Grass Pitch Improvement Programme - an ambition to deliver 20,000 good quality grass pitches by 2030. Clubs with good or standard quality pitches can also apply for a lower level of funding to improve and sustain quality.

All applicants must have the required security of tenure and have received a PitchPower Pitch Assessment Report, with the fund currently open to football clubs, leagues, and charities. Local authorities are not currently eligible applicants, however, clubs, leagues and charitable organisations using local authority sites can apply provided they have security of tenure.

The Council is not presently eligible to access the GPMF as an applicant, however, can undertake technical assessment of pitches using the PitchPower app. Opportunities to access the fund to support presently Council managed sites include establishment of a service level agreement with a resident club for maintenance responsibilities, or transfer of long-term management to the club/organisation through leasehold or CAT, both enabling the club/organisation to apply to the fund.

It should be noted that Burnley Borough Council is currently working with the Football Foundation on a pilot project regarding PitchPower/GPMF and identify potential funding opportunities to enhance Council pitch quality in the future. The Council is looking to access funds to improve pitches at Towneley Park Playing Fields, Fennyfold Playing Fields, Prairie Sports Village and Queens Park.

Furthermore, the Football Foundation also launched a new Groundskeeping Community online platform in 2019 which provides a resource of expert advice for grounds staff, enabling them to connect with peers, discover new tips and tricks and share advice on best

---

<sup>6</sup> <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/grass-pitch-maintenance-fund>



## **BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

---

industry practice. Users can seek guidance from the GMA regional pitch advisors, who are available to answer questions and update members on changes to industry standards.

### ***Addressing quality issues***

Where facilities are assessed as standard or poor quality and/or overplayed, maintenance regimes should be reviewed and, where possible, improved to ensure that what is being done is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality. Ensuring continuance of existing maintenance of good quality sites is also essential.

It is also important to note the impact the weather has on quality. The worse the weather, the poorer facilities tend to become, especially if there is no dedicated drainage system in place or if existing drainage systems are inadequate or have become compromised or poorly maintained. This also means that quality can vary, year on year, dependent upon the weather and levels of rainfall.

Based upon an achievable target using existing quality scoring to provide a baseline, a standard should be used to identify deficiencies and investment should be focused on those sites which fail to meet the proposed quality standard (using the site audit database as provided in electronic format). The Strategy approach to playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities achieving these standards should be to enhance quality and therefore the planning system should seek to protect them.

For the purposes of quality assessments, the PPOSS refers to playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities and ancillary facilities separately as being of 'Good', 'Standard' or 'Poor' quality. For example, some good quality sites have poor quality elements and vice versa (e.g. a good quality pitch may be serviced by poor quality changing facilities).

Good quality refers to pitches that have, for example, good grass cover, an even surface, are free from vandalism and litter. For rugby union, a good quality pitch is also pipe and/or slit drained. In terms of ancillary facilities, good quality refers to access for disabled people, sufficient provision for referees, juniors/women/girls and appropriate provision of showers, toilets and car parking.

Standard quality refers to pitches that have, for example, adequate grass cover, minimal signs of wear and tear and goalposts may be secure but in need of minor repair. For rugby union, drainage is natural but adequate. In terms of ancillary facilities, standard quality refers to adequately sized changing rooms, storage provision and provision of toilets.

Poor quality refers to provision with, for example, inadequate grass cover, uneven surfaces and poor drainage. For rugby, pitches will have inadequate natural drainage. In terms of ancillary facilities, poor quality refers to inappropriate changing rooms with no showers, no running water and/or old, dated interiors. If a poor quality site receives little or no usage that is not to say that no improvement is needed, it may instead be the case that it receives no demand because of its quality, thus an improvement in said quality will attract demand to the site, potentially from overplayed standard or good quality sites.

Without appropriate, fit for purpose ancillary facilities, good quality pitches may be underutilised. Changing facilities form the most essential part of this offer and therefore key sites should be given priority for improvement. Also, key sites without a suitable offer may not be able to establish or grow participation in key sport development areas with specific requirements, such as disability or women and girls' sport.

To prioritise investment into key sites it is recommended that the steering group works up a list of criteria, relevant to Burnley, to provide a steer on future investment.

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

For improvement/replacement of artificial grass pitches refer to Sport England and National Governing Bodies 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, and Rugby Union' document for a guide as to suitable artificial grass pitch surfaces: <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/outdoor-surfaces>

### **Addressing overplay**

In order to improve the overall quality of the outdoor facility stock, it is necessary to ensure that provision is not overplayed beyond recommended carrying capacity. This is determined by assessing quality (via a non-technical site assessment) and allocating a match limit to each (daily for hockey, weekly for football, rugby league and rugby union and seasonal for cricket).

The FA, RFU, RFL, ECB and EH all recommend a maximum number of matches that pitches should take based on quality, as seen in the table below. For other grass pitch sports, no guidelines are set by the NGBs although it can be assumed that a similar trend should be followed.

*Table 5.2: Carrying capacity of pitches*

Sport	Pitch type	No. of matches		
		Good quality	Standard quality	Poor quality
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week
Rugby union	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Rugby league	Senior pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	4 per season	0 per season
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season	60 per season	0 per season
Hockey	Sand/water based AGP	4 per day	4 per day	N/A

For non-pitch sports, capacity is not linked to the number of matches taking place but rather the number of members (and other users) attracted to a site. For example, for tennis, a hard court is said to have capacity for 60 members if it is serviced by sports lighting, whereas a non-lit court has capacity for 40 members (this varies for grass courts).

It is imperative to engage with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity. Where overplay is identified, play should be encouraged, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues that are not operating at capacity, or quality, where possible, should be improved to increase capacity to appropriate levels. Where play is transferred, this may include transferring play to 3G pitches or to sites not currently available for community use but which may be in the future.

For cricket, an increase in NTPs is key to alleviating overplay as this allows for the transfer of recreational demand from grass wickets at Towneley Park Playing Fields. It also does not require any additional playing pitch space as NTPs can be installed in situ with existing squares.



## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

As mentioned earlier, there are also sites that are poor quality but are not overplayed. These should not be overlooked as often poor quality sites have less demand than others but demand could increase if the quality was improved. It does, however, work both ways as potential improvements may make sites more attractive and therefore more popular, which in the long run can lead again to them becoming poor quality pitches if not properly maintained.

### *Improving changing provision*

There is a need to address changing provision at some sites in the Borough (these are detailed in the Action Plan). As previously mentioned, without appropriate, fit for purpose ancillary facilities, good quality pitches may be underutilised. Changing facilities form the most essential part of this offer and therefore key sites should be given priority for improvement.

Sites which predominantly accommodate adult and/or older junior age group sports should be prioritised for improvements, whilst there is a trend for younger junior age groups (particularly for football) not to require use of changing provision, with suitable male and female toilet provision for players and spectators considered to be of greater importance.

### **Recommendation (e) – Adopt a tiered approach (hierarchy of provision) to the management and improvement of sites**

To allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach, the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of outdoor sport sites and associated facilities. Please refer to Part 6: Action Plan for the proposed hierarchy.

### **Recommendation (f) – Work in partnership with stakeholders to secure funding**

Partners, led by the Council, should ensure that appropriate funding is secured for improved sports provision and directed to areas of need. This should be underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in outdoor sport provision and accompanying ancillary facilities.

In order to address the community's needs, to target priority areas and to reduce duplication of provision, there should be a co-ordinated approach to strategic investment. In delivering this recommendation, the Council should maintain a regular dialogue with local partners and through the PPOSS Steering Group.

Although some investment in new provision will not be made by the Council directly, it is important that the Steering Group seeks to direct and lead a strategic and co-ordinated approach to facility development. This includes delivery from education sites, NGBs, sports clubs and the commercial sector.

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

One of sport's greatest contributions is its positive impact on public health and it is therefore important to lever in investment from other sectors such as, for example, health and wellbeing. Sport and physical activity can have a profound effect on peoples' lives, and plays a crucial role in improving community cohesion, educational attainment and self-confidence.

### **Recommendation (g) – Secure developer contributions**

Burnley Borough Council's (BBC) current methodology for securing developer contributions is identified within its current Local Plan under Policy IC4: Infrastructure and Planning Contribution<sup>7</sup>. This is outlined in greater detail in the Figure below.

*Figure 5.1: BBC's Local Plan Policy IC4: Infrastructure and Planning Contribution*

#### **Policy IC4: Infrastructure and Planning Contributions**

- 1) Development will be required to provide or contribute towards the provision of the infrastructure needed to support it.**
- 2) The Council will seek planning contributions where development creates a requirement for additional or improved services and infrastructure and/or to address the off-site impact of development so as to satisfy other policy requirements. Planning contributions may be sought to fund a single item of infrastructure or to fund part of an infrastructure item or service.<sup>132</sup>**
- 3) Where new infrastructure is needed to support development, the infrastructure must be operational no later than the appropriate phase of development for which it is needed.**
- 4) Contributions may be sought for the initial provision and/or ongoing running and maintenance costs of services and facilities.**
- 5) Contributions will be negotiated on a site-by-site basis and will only be sought where these are:**
  - a) necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;**
  - b) directly related to the development; and**
  - c) fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.**
- 6) Appropriate matters to be funded by planning contributions include, but are not limited to:**
  - Affordable housing**
  - Public realm improvements and creation, including public art**
  - Improvements to Heritage Assets**
  - Flood defence and alleviation schemes, including SuDS**
  - Biodiversity enhancements**
  - Open space, including green infrastructure and allotments**
  - Transport improvements, including walking and cycling facilities**
  - Police infrastructure**
  - Education provision**
  - Utilities**
  - Waste management**
  - Health infrastructure**
  - Sport, leisure, recreational, cultural and other social and community facilities**
- 7) Where contributions are requested or unilaterally proposed and the viability of development proposals is in question, applicants should provide viability evidence through an 'open book' approach to allow for the proper review of evidence submitted and for reasons of transparency.**

---

<sup>7</sup><https://burnley.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Burnleys-Local-Plan-Adopted-Version-Final-With-erratum-28-Sep-2018.pdf>

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

There is no immediate plan to update the Local Plan therefore the abovementioned methodology will be continued to be used for the immediate future. When the time comes to update the Local Plan, it is advised that the Council should incorporate aspects of Sports England's Playing Pitch Calculator. This can be used as a tool for helping to determine the additional demand for pitches and to estimate the likely developer contribution required linking to sites within the locality. This should form part of the Council working with Sport England to develop a process and guidance for obtaining developer contributions.

The calculator uses the current number of teams by sports pitch type contained within the Assessment Report and calculates the percentage within each age group that play that sport. That percentage is then applied to the population growth. The additional teams likely to be generated are then converted into match equivalent sessions and associated pitch requirements in the peak period, with the associated costs (both for providing the pitch/facility and for its life cycle) then given. The calculator splits the requirement into peak time demand for natural turf pitches, training demand for artificial grass pitches, and the number of new changing rooms required.

The PPOSS should be used to help determine the likely impact of a new development on demand and the capacity of existing sites in the area, and whether there is a need for improvements to increase capacity of existing provision or if new provision is required. Where a development is located within access of existing high-quality provision, this does not necessarily mean that there is no need for further provision or improvement to existing provision, as additional demand arising from the development is likely to result in increased usage (which can result in overplay or quality deterioration).

The guidance should form the basis for negotiation with developers to secure contributions to include provision and/or enhancement of appropriate provision and subsequent maintenance. S106 contributions could also be used to improve the condition of the pitches in order to increase pitch capacity to accommodate more matches.

Sport England recommends that a number of objectives should be implemented to enable the above to be delivered:

- ◀ Planning consent should include appropriate conditions and/or be subject to specific planning obligations. Where developer contributions are applicable, a S106 agreement or equivalent must be completed that should specify, when applied, the amount that will be linked to Sport England's Building Cost Information Service from the date of the permission and timing of the contribution/s to be made.
- ◀ Contributions should also be secured towards the first ten years of maintenance on new pitches (lifecycle costs), the cost of which is indicated by the Sport England Playing Pitch Calculator. NGBs and Sport England can provide further and up to date information on the associated costs.
- ◀ External funding should be sought/secured to achieve maximum benefit from the investment into appropriate facility enhancement, alongside other open space provision, and its subsequent maintenance.
- ◀ Where new provision is provided, appropriate changing rooms and associated car parking should be located on site (Considering SPD and viability).
- ◀ All new or improved outdoor sports facilities on school sites should be subject to community use agreements.

For further information, please see Part 7 of this report.

### **OBJECTIVE 3**

To provide new outdoor sport provision and ancillary facilities where there is current or future demand to do so

#### **Recommendations:**

- h. Rectify quantitative shortfalls through the current facility stock.
- i. Identify opportunities to increase to the overall stock to accommodate both current and future demand.

#### **Recommendation (h) - Rectify quantitative shortfalls through the current stock**

The Council and its partners should work to rectify identified inadequacies and meet identified shortfalls as outlined in the preceding Assessment Report and the sport-by-sport specific recommendations (Part 4) as well as the following Action Plan (Part 6).

It is important that the current levels of provision are protected, maintained and enhanced to secure provision both for now and in the future. Maximising use of existing provision through a combination of the following will help to reduce shortfalls and accommodate future demand:

- ◀ Improving quality in order to improve the capacity to accommodate more demand.
- ◀ Transferring demand from overplayed sites to sites with spare capacity.
- ◀ The re-designation of facilities e.g. converting an unused pitch (or pitch type) for one sport to instead cater for another sport (or another pitch type).
- ◀ Securing community use at school sites including those currently unavailable.
- ◀ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage.

The PPOSS identifies priority sites that should be focused upon, including those that are presently overplayed and/or poor quality, or unused sites that are particularly large. It also advises how issues can be overcome.

#### **Recommendation (i) - Identify opportunities to add to the overall stock to accommodate both current and future demand**

The Steering Group should use and regularly update the Action Plan within this Strategy. The Action Plan lists recommendations for each site, focused upon both qualitative and quantitative improvements, which if delivered will lessen the need for new provision.

Linked to the above and as evidenced in Part 4, although there are identified shortfalls of match equivalent sessions, most current and future demand is currently being met and most shortfalls can be addressed via quality improvements and/or improved access to sites that are presently used minimally or that are currently unavailable. Adding to the current stock, particularly in the short term, is therefore not recommended as a priority, except for cricket, rugby union and tennis, where there is discrete need, and for 3G pitches, the shortfall for which cannot be reduced without new stock.

Large scale housing developments and the establishment of new schools may also necessitate the need for new provision. Where new schools are developed, there is an opportunity to combine the building of the School to the development of a new multi-sport site that will be of a benefit to the School as well as the wider community.

## **BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

---

For housing developments, as outlined in Recommendation (g), Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator can be used as a guide to inform requirements. See Part 7 for further information.

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

### PART 6: ACTION PLAN

The site-by-site action plan seeks to address key issues identified in the preceding Assessment Report. It provides recommendations based on current levels of usage, quality and future demand, as well as the potential of each site for enhancement. It is separated by analysis area and includes information pertaining to the sub sections below.

#### **Site hierarchy**

The Council should make it a high priority to work with NGBs and other partners to comprise a priority list of actions based on local priorities, NGB priorities and available funding. As stated in Recommendation (e), to allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach, the Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities.

The identification of sites is based on their strategic importance in a Borough-wide context i.e., they accommodate the majority of demand, or the recommended action has the greatest impact on addressing shortfalls identified either on a sport-by-sport basis or across the Council area as a whole.

*Table 6.1: Proposed tiered site criteria*

Criteria	Hub sites	Key centres	Local sites
Site location	Strategically located in the Borough. Priority sites for NGBs.	Strategically located within the analysis area.	Serves the local community.
Site layout	Accommodates three or more grass pitches, generally including provision of an AGP (or with the potential).	Accommodates two or more grass pitches.	Accommodates one or two pitches.
Type of sport	Multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision.	Generally single sport provision but may cater for two.
Management	Management control allows for wide community use, i.e., through the local authority, a leisure operator or a school with a community use agreement.	Management control generally allows for wide community use but may include sites that are owned or leased by clubs/other organisations.	Management control can be via the local authority, schools, clubs and other providers.
Maintenance regime	Maintenance regime aligns or could align with NGB guidelines.	Maintenance regime aligns or could align with NGB guidelines.	Standard maintenance regime or an in-house maintenance contract.
Ancillary facilities	Good quality ancillary facilities on site (or potential), with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches; may include wider social/function facilities.	Good quality ancillary facility on site (or potential), with sufficient changing rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	Limited or no changing room access on site.



## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

**Hub sites** are of Borough wide importance where users are willing to travel to access the range and high quality of facilities offered and are likely to be multi-sport. These have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment.

**Key centres** are more community focused, although some are still likely to service a wider analysis area (or slightly wider); however, there may be more of a focus on a specific sport i.e., a dedicated site.

It is considered that some financial investment may be necessary to improve the facilities at both hub sites and key sites. This could be to improve the provision, create additional provision (e.g., a 3G pitch) or to enhance the ancillary facilities in terms of access, flexibility (i.e., single-sex changing if necessary) and quality as well as ensuring that they meet the rules and regulations of local competitions.

**Local sites** refer to those sites offering minimal provision or that are of minimal value to the wider community. Primarily they are sites with one pitch/facility or a low number of pitches/facilities that service just one or two sports (e.g., bowling green sites).

For local authority local sites, consideration should be given, on a site-by-site basis, to the feasibility of a club taking on a long-term lease (if not already present), in order that external funding can be sought. Such sites will require some level of investment, either to the outdoor sport facilities or ancillary facilities and is it anticipated that one of the conditions of offering a hire/lease is that the Club would be in a position to source external funding to improve/extend the provision.

Other sites considered in this tier may be primary school sites or secondary school sites that are not widely used by the community or that do not offer community availability.

### **Partners**

The column indicating partners refers to the main organisations that the Council would look to work with to support delivery of the actions.

Given the extent of potential actions, it is reasonable to assume that partners will not necessarily be able to support all the actions identified but where the action is a priority and resource is available the partner will endeavour to assist.

As all sites sit within the local authority area, the Council is considered to be a partner for each identified action (as the column indicates partners for the Council) and is therefore not included. However, it is acknowledged that it will take on more of a leading role for some specific sites and some specific actions (e.g., at council venues).

### **Priority**

Although hub sites are mostly likely to have **high** priority actions, as they have wide importance, these have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the key issues identified in the assessment. Therefore, some key centres and local sites are also identified as having a high priority level. It is these projects/sites which should generally, if possible, be addressed within the short term (1-2 years).

The majority of key centres have **medium** priority actions. These have analysis area importance and are identified on the basis of the impact that they will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment, although not to the same extent as high priority actions.



## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

The **low** priority actions tend to be for single pitch or single sport sites and often club or education sites with local specific importance but that may also contribute to addressing the issues identified in the assessment for specific users. Whilst low priority, there may be opportunities to action some of the recommendations made against such sites relatively quickly e.g., through S106 funding.

### **Costs**

The strategic actions have also been ranked as low, medium or high based on cost. The brackets are:

- ◀ (L) -Low - less than £50k
- ◀ (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k
- ◀ (H) -High £250k and above

These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at: <https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/facility-cost-guidance>

### **Timescales**

The Action Plan has been created to be delivered over a ten-year period and the information within the Assessment Report, Strategy and Action Plan will require updating as developments occur. The indicative timescales relate to delivery times and are not priority based:

- ◀ (S) -Short (1-2 years)
- ◀ (M) - Medium (3-5 years)
- ◀ (L) - Long (6+ years)

### **Aim**

Each action seeks to meet at least one of the three Sport England aims of the Strategy; **Enhance, Provide, Protect.**

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

## NORTH BURNLEY ANALYSIS AREA

### Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2032)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	North Burnley	Adult	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 0.5
		Youth 11v11	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>
		Youth 9v9	<b>Shortfall of 0.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 1</b>
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1	<b>Shortfall of 0.5</b>
		Mini 5v5	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Burnley	Adult	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 2.5</b>
		Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 0.5	<b>Shortfall of 2</b>
		Youth 9v9	<b>Shortfall of 0.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 2.5	Spare capacity of 1.5
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1.5	Spare capacity of 0.5
3G	North Burnley	Full size, floodlit	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
Cricket	North Burnley	Saturday	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Sunday	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Midweek	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Burnley	Saturday	<b>Shortfall of 15</b>	<b>Shortfall of 15</b>
		Sunday	<b>Shortfall of 3</b>	<b>Shortfall of 3</b>
		Midweek	<b>Shortfall of 16</b>	<b>Shortfall of 22</b>
Rugby union	North Burnley	Senior	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
	Burnley	Senior	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
Rugby league	Burnley	Provision	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
Hockey	Burnley	Full size, floodlit	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Tennis	Burnley	Courts	Sufficient quantity <b>but quality issues</b>	Sufficient quantity <b>but quality issues</b>
Bowls	Burnley	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Golf	Burnley	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
MUGAs	Burnley	Provision	<b>Shortfalls within the East Burnley &amp; Cliviger and Padiham &amp; Hapton analysis areas</b>	<b>Shortfalls within the East Burnley &amp; Cliviger and Padiham &amp; Hapton analysis areas</b>
Other sports	Burnley	Provision	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>

[1] MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
1	Bank Hall Pitch	BB10 3AT	Football <i>(Disused)</i>	Private	Previously accommodated one adult pitch, with changing rooms and secure fencing. The site has been disused for a number of years. Rosegrove JFC aspires to develop the pitch and ancillary facilities, whilst also developing a secure perimeter fence. It has had conversations with the current landowner around bringing the site back into use. It states that this is still currently aspirational, however plans to continue exploring this opportunity.	Explore the opportunity to re-establish the site for community football use. Explore feasibility to redevelop ancillary facilities onsite.	Private Sports club Council LFA FF	Local	L	M	M-H	Enhance Provide
2	Barden Gardens	BB10 1JA	Bowls/ Football <i>(informal)</i>	Council	Two greens at Barden Gardens identified as being disused. The disused greens are overgrown and are therefore unable to be used for bowls. Currently used for informal football. The Council has plans to provide small goals on one of the greens on the site and to maintain the remaining grassed area.	As there is no requirement to reinstate the greens for bowls look to repurpose them for recreational football / cricket. Explore the opportunity to install goal posts to support use for recreational football.	Council BCGBA LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
			Tennis		Two poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting.	Explore repurposing the courts into a more MUGA style provision.	Council LTA EN		M	S	L	Enhance Protect
			MUGA		One poor quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to develop the improve MUGA quality through potential funding streams.			M	M	L	Enhance Protect
3	Barden Lane Athletics Track	BB10 1JQ	Football	Burnley Leisure	One standard quality adult pitch. Pitch has actual spare capacity of one MES per week. In 2021, the site received funding to improve pitches through Football Foundation GPMF. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Burnley United FC suggests that there is a need for investment into the changing room and clubhouse.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the potential of improving ancillary provision.	Trust LFA FF	Local	L	M-L	M	Enhance Protect
6	Basnett Street Playing Field	BB10 3ES	Football	School	One standard quality youth 11v11 available for community use. Pitch is played to capacity at peak time.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	School LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
9	Briercliffe Recreation Ground	BB10 2HX	Football	Parish council	One mini 7v7 and one mini 5v5 pitch of poor quality. Pitches have potential spare capacity which has been discounted due to poor pitch quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the potential of improving ancillary provision.	Parish council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
			MUGA		One standard quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance and retain as current use.			L	L	L	Protect

**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
11	Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus	BB10 1JD	Football	County Council	In previous years one adult and one youth 11v11 pitches have been marked on the grass playing field at Thomas Whitham Burnley Campus. Management of the site has recently changed to Lancashire County Council following the folding of the previous Community Hub on the site.	If required explore the opportunity of securing use and bringing pitches back into use for community use.	County Council LFA FF LTA EH EN	Local	L	L	L	Provide
			AGP		One poor quality full size (88x52) sand filled AGP with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch was laid in 2009 and has since not been resurfaced. Although named as full size pitch, it falls just outside EH guidelines (91.4x55) for competitive hockey. Used extensively for netball and football.	Explore the feasibility of resurfacing poor quality pitch for both curricular use and community netball use. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Look to secure tenure for netball users and establish a dedicated netball hub.			M	M	M-H	Enhance Protect
			Tennis/ Netball		Four macadam tennis courts overmarked with three netball courts. Provision is poor quality and not accompanied by sports lighting. Netball provision is used for community netball.	Improve the quality of the provision as appropriate and look to secure tenure for community users.						
12	Burnley College	BB12 0AN	3G	College	One standard quality full size (110 x70) 3G pitch, with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitch is on the FA 3G Pitch Register. Actual spare capacity of 10% during the week. With actual spare capacity of 33% on weekends. In recent years the pitch has received remedial work to maintain quality. Ancillary provision of good quality.	As pitch is past its recommended 10 year lifespan ensure it is resurfaced and then maintained to sustain pitch quality. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Ensure the pitch is retained on the FA 3G Pitch Register so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required.	College LFA FF	Local	M	M	M	Enhance Protect
20	Disraeli Street	BB10 1HR	Football (informal)	Council	Plans to have grass pitch installed with informal goalposts and AstroTurf goalmouth.	Explore opportunity to install informal goalposts and AstroTurf goalmouths onsite.	Council LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Provide
27	Lanehead/ Kibble Bank	BB10 2RQ	Football (informal)	Council	One set of 9-a-side goals. Was used as a formal pitch in the past but only used for informal use now.	Protect pitch for informal use and maintain as required	Council LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
			MUGA		One standard quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Sustain quality with appropriate levels of maintenance and retain as current use.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
33	Prairie Sports Village	BB10 2FU	Football	Burnley Leisure	Four youth 9v9, four mini 7v7 and two mini 5v5 pitches all of standard quality. Youth 9v9 pitches are currently played to capacity at peak time. Mini 7v7 pitches have actual spare capacity of one MES per week. Mini 5v5 pitches are currently played to capacity. Ancillary provision of good quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to add to the LFFP priority list for pitch improvements.	Trust LFA FF RFU EG	Hub Site	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
			3G		One standard quality and one good quality full size (65x102) 3G pitches. Both pitches have sports lighting and are available for community use. Both pitches are on the FA 3G Pitch Register, whilst the good quality pitch is also WR compliant. The standard quality pitch has actual spare capacity of 3% during the week, whilst it also has actual spare capacity of 19% on weekends. The good quality pitch is played to capacity during the week, whilst it has actual spare capacity of 25% on weekends.	Look to improve and maintain pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time, for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Ensure the pitches are on the 3G Register so that they can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required. Ensure continued use for Burnley RUFC and American football as required.			L	L	L	Enhance Protect
			Rugby union		One senior pitch of M1/D1 (Standard quality). Used as an overspill pitch by Burnley RUFC.	Protect pitch for overspill use for Burnley RUFC.			L	L	L	Protect
			Golf		A covered 18-bay driving range. This is available for anyone to use on a pay and play basis and the provision is serviced by floodlighting to allow all-year round and late evening usage.	Sustain driving range quality with appropriate maintenance.			L	L	L	Protect
			Rounders		Four standard quality rounders pitches.	Ensure pitches are marked out as required to meet demand.			L	L	L	Protect
34	Queens Park (Burnley)	BB10 3EF	Football	Council	One mini 5v5, two mini 7v7 and two youth 9v9 pitches of standard quality. Mini 5v5 pitch is played to capacity. Mini 7v7 pitches are played to capacity. Youth 9v9 pitches are overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Rosegrove JFC reports that the Council has secured funding to install purpose-built drainage across the pitches. Site is listed on the LFFP priority list for pitch improvements and	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Retain pitch on LFFP priority list for pitch improvement and changing build/refurbishment. Use allocated S106 monies to assist in improving pitch quality.	Council LFA FF LTA BCGBA	Key centre	M-H	S-M	M-H	Enhance Protect Provide

**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					clubhouse/changing build/refurbishment. Site is to benefit from S106 monies from the development at Stoneyholme Recreation Ground.							
			Tennis		Four standard quality macadam courts all with sports lighting. The site has been identified as one which requires investment through the LTA investment scheme.	Used approved capacity funding to improve the courts including installing a Gate Access System.			H	S-M	L-M	Protect Enhance
			Bowls		Two standard quality crown greens with no sports lighting.	Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance.			L	L	L	Protect
			MUGA		One standard quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Improve quality and explore opportunity to install sports lighting.			L	L	L	Enhance Protect
36	Sir John Thursby Community College	BB10 2AT	Football	College	Two adult pitches of poor quality, unavailable for community use.	Look to improve quality with enhanced maintenance, for continued school use.	School LFA FF EH	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
			AGP		One poor quality full size (100x60) sand filled AGP, with sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Explore the feasibility of resurfacing poor quality pitch for school use. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time for repair and resurfacing when necessary Explore utilising for netball if demand increases or if tenure cannot be secured at Burnley Campus.			L-M	L-M	M-H	Enhance Protect
			Cricket		One standalone NTP not available for community use.	Retain as current use and improve in quality when required.			L	L	L	Protect
40	Stoneyholme Recreation Ground	BB12 0AW	Football (Disused)	Council	Previously been marked with one adult pitch and is located adjacent to a small area of land with a set of goals, approximately the size of a mini 7v7 pitch (Shale), in addition to a large sports lit macadam area. Due to the lack of demand the site has not formally been used for any affiliated demand for over 10 years. Burnley College have recently had planning approved to develop the site which will see the existing 7v7 pitch enhanced to an informal grass pitch and the creation of a sports lit MUGA alongside an outdoor gym. Once completed this will be managed by the Council. There is also circa £200,000 of S106 to go towards pitch improvement works at Queens Park.	Ensure the development takes place in accordance with agreed package of approved mitigation.	Council LFA FF	Local	H	S-M	H	Protect Enhance Provide



**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
51	Briercliffe Memorial Bowling Club	BB10 2JG	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality crown green with no sports lighting.	Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports Club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
59	Queensgate BC	BB10 1SF	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality crown green with no sports lighting	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Sports Club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
61	St Andrews Bowling Club	BB10 3ED	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality crown green with no sports lighting. St Andrew's BC is operating at the recommended capacity levels and therefore need to be monitored to ensure that supply remains adequate.	Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports Club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
62	Stoneyholme BC	BB12 0RE	Bowls	Sports Club	Two good quality crown green with no sports lighting.	Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports Club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
69	Lane bottom (Informal)	BB10 3QS	Football (Informal)	Council	Large sloped grassed area with some goalposts (the field suffers from poor drainage).	Protect pitch for informal use and maintain as required	Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
74	Lydgate/end of Balderstone Rd (Informal)	BB10 2DR	Football (Informal)	Council	1 x set of small goals including Astroturf goalmouth.	Protect pitch for informal use and maintain as required	Council LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
76	Rakehead Recreation Ground	BB10 1SL	Football (Informal)	Council	Aspirations to develop informal/recreational football provision. Initial plans are to improve the drainage on the field and installation of goalposts and grass around the goalmouths.	Explore the opportunity to develop informal/recreational football provision including the improving drainage/goalposts.	Council LFA FF	Local	M	M	L-M	Provide Enhance
			MUGA		Two standard quality MUGAs with no sports lighting.	Look to develop the improve MUGA quality through potential funding streams.						
87	Abel Street	BB10 1QR	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with sports lighting. Site identified for MUGA development on LFFP.	Look to develop the improve MUGA quality through potential funding streams.	Council LFA FF	Local	M	M	L	Enhance Protect
89	Byerden Holme	BB10 1AF	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to develop the improve MUGA quality through potential funding streams.	Council LFA, FF	Local	M	M	L	Enhance Protect
98	Burnley Boys & Girls Club	BB10 1JQ	MUGA	Community organisation	One poor quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to refurbish the MUGA to better meet demand,	Community organisation Council	Local	M	M	L	Enhance



# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

## PADIHAM & HAPTON ANALYSIS AREA

### Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2032)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	Padiham & Hapton	Adult	Shortfall of 2.5	Shortfall of 2.5
		Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 0.5	Shortfall of 0.5
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5	Shortfall of 1
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
	Burnley	Adult	Shortfall of 1.5	Shortfall of 2.5
		Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 0.5	Shortfall of 2
		Youth 9v9	Shortfall of 0.5	Shortfall of 1.5
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 2.5	Spare capacity of 1.5
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1.5	Spare capacity of 0.5
3G	Padiham & Hapton	Full size, floodlit	Shortfall of 3G pitch provision	Shortfall of 3G pitch provision
Cricket	Padiham & Hapton	Saturday	Shortfall of 3	Shortfall of 3
		Sunday	Spare capacity of 9	Spare capacity of 9
		Midweek	Shortfall of 9	Shortfall of 9
	Burnley	Saturday	Shortfall of 15	Shortfall of 15
		Sunday	Shortfall of 3	Shortfall of 3
		Midweek	Shortfall of 16	Shortfall of 22
Rugby union	Padiham & Hapton	Senior	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Burnley	Senior	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
Rugby league	Burnley	Provision	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
Hockey	Burnley	Full size, floodlit	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Tennis	Burnley	Courts	Sufficient quantity <b>but quality issues</b>	Sufficient quantity <b>but quality issues</b>
Bowls	Burnley	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Golf	Burnley	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
MUGAs	Burnley	Provision	Shortfalls within the East Burnley & Cliviger and Padiham & Hapton analysis areas	Shortfalls within the East Burnley & Cliviger and Padiham & Hapton analysis areas
Other sports	Burnley	Provision	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>

<sup>[1]</sup> MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
4	Barnfield Training Centre (North)	BB12 9AF	Football	Sport Club	Seven good quality adult pitches. Unavailable for community. Training ground for Burnley FC.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance for elite sporting use.	Sports club LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
5	Barnfield Training Centre (South)	BB12 8UA	Football	Sports Club	One good quality adult pitch. Unavailable for community use. Training ground for Burnley FC.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance for elite sporting use.	Sports club LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			3G		One standard quality full size (65x102) 3G pitch with sports lighting. Unavailable for community use. Training ground for Burnley FC.	Look to improve quality with appropriate maintenance for elite sporting use. Explore opportunity to resurface pitch to support elite level sport. Ensure pitches are on the 3G Register so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required.			L	L	M-L	Enhance Protect
16	Burnley High School	BB12 6NX	Football	School	Two mini 7v7 pitches and two youth 11v11 pitches of poor quality. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance, to support school use. Seek to obtain access for community use to help meet capacity shortfalls for football.	School LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
21	Fennyfold Playing Fields	BB12 7BN	Football 3G	Council	Two adult pitches of poor quality. One mini 5v5, one mini 7v7 and one youth 9v9 pitches all of poor quality. Adult pitches are overplayed by 2.5 MES per week. Mini 5v5 pitch have actual spare capacity of one MES per week. Mini 7v7 pitch has actual spare capacity of one MES per week. Youth 9v9 pitch is overplayed by 0.5 MES per week. Ancillary provision of poor quality. Site is identified on the 2019 LFFP priority list for ancillary provision improvement, pitch improvement and for potential development of full size 3G pitch.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Retain pitch on LFFP priority list for pitch and ancillary provision improvement. Explore the potential of improving ancillary provision. Explore the opportunity and requirement to develop full size 3G pitch onsite if community access cannot be obtained at Shuttleworth College.	Council LFA FF	Local	M	M-S	M-H	Enhance Protect Provide
26	Hapton Recreation Ground	BB11 5RG	Football	Council	One standard quality youth 11v11 pitch. Youth 11v11 pitch has actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. No dedicated ancillary provision onsite.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore opportunity to develop dedicated ancillary facilities onsite.	Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L-M	Enhance Protect Provide
			MUGA		Two poor quality MUGAs with sports lighting.	Look to improve quality with enhanced maintenance.			L	L	L	Enhance Protect

**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
30	Lowerhouse Cricket Club - The Brooks Foundation Ground	BB12 6LP	Cricket	Sport Club	One good quality square with 13 senior and six junior wickets. These are overplayed by three and 15 match equivalent sessions a season, respectively. Site leased to Lowerhouse CC from the Dugdale Family Trust. The Club aspires to buy the site. It has plans to expand on its ancillary provision.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore options to alleviate overplay including but not limited to, installing an NTP / Hybrid wicket. Explore the feasibility of assisting the Club with ancillary enhancements.	Sports club ECB LCB	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance Provide
32	Padiham St Leonards C of E School	BB12 8HT	Football	School	Previously had a youth 11v11 pitch marked onsite. Pitch is no longer marked, whilst the playing field is not maintained for football.	If required explore the opportunity of securing use and bringing pitches back into use for community use.	School LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect Provide
35	Shuttleworth College	BB12 8ST	Football	College	Two adult and one youth 11v11 pitch of poor quality. Available for community use. All pitches have potential spare capacity, but this is discounted due to the site offering unsecure tenure. Ancillary provision of good quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore opportunity to secure tenure for teams onsite through CUA.	College LFA FF ECB LCF	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
			3G		One good quality full size (62x100) 3G pitch with sports lighting, unavailable for community use.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate maintenance. Look to secure community use of pitch to support midweek training for community clubs. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time, for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Ensure the pitch is on the FA 3G Pitch Register so that it can support use for competitive match play and is renewed when required.			L	L	L	Protect
			Cricket		One standalone NTP not available for community use.	Retain as current use and improve in quality when required.			L	L	L	Protect
42	The Arbories Memorial Sports Ground - Padiham Sports Club	BB12 8LE	Football	Sport Club	One good quality adult pitch, with sports lighting. Adult pitch has potential spare capacity, which is discounted to protect step pitch. Used by Padiham FC (NLS – Step 5).	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports club LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			Cricket		One good quality square with ten senior and seven junior wickets accompanied by an NTP. The square has capacity to accommodate additional demand on a Sunday and Midweek. Leased to Padiham CC which has plans to extend the clubhouse to increase its social space, it reports that will require funding support in order to do this.	Sustain square quality with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore the feasibility of assisting Padiham CC with its clubhouse plans.			L	M	L-M	Protect
56	Park Road	BB12 8EB	Tennis	Council	Three standard quality macadam tennis courts with no sports lighting. The site has been identified as one which requires investment through the LTA investment scheme, the plan is for the courts to be repainted and new posts and nets installed.	Used approved capacity funding to improve the courts including installing a Gate Access System and repainting of courts and installation of new posts/nets.	Council LTA BCGBA	Local	H	S-M	L-M	Enhance Protect
			Bowls		One good quality green with no sports lighting. Padiham BC has a dwindling membership, and the club should be monitored to ensure green can be sustainable.				Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance. Monitor Padiham BC membership to ensure green is sustainable.			
57	Park View	BB12 8EE	Bowls	Council	One standard quality green with no sports lighting. Padiham BC has a dwindling membership, and the club should be monitored to ensure green can be sustainable.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Monitor Padiham BC membership to ensure green is sustainable.	Council BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
70	Bedford Park (Informal)	BB12 7EE	Football (Informal)	Council	1 x set of small goals including Astroturf goalmouth.	Protect pitch for informal use and maintain as required	Council LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
73	Hargrove Avenue, Padiham (Informal)	BB12 8QB	Football (Informal)	Council	1 x set of small goals on grassed area. Want to install Astroturf areas and smaller sets of goals.	Protect pitch for informal use and maintain as required Assist where possible to install astroturf area.	Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
			MUGA		One poor quality MUGA without sports lighting.	Look to improve quality with enhanced maintenance.			L			
77	Whitegate Park, Padiham	BB12 8TE	Football (Informal)	Council	Aspirations to develop informal recreational football provision.	Explore the opportunity to develop recreational football provision.	Council LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Provide
81	Padiham Memorial Park	BB12 8LA	Football (Informal)	Council	Informal grass pitch with 1 x goalpost only.	Protect pitch for informal use and maintain as required	Council LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
83	Padiham Leisure Centre	BB12 8EB	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to improve quality with enhanced maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
94	Lancaster Drive	BB12 7DU	MUGA	Council	One standard quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to improve quality with enhanced maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

## EAST BURNLEY & CLIVIGER ANALYSIS AREA

### Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2032)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	East Burnley & Cliviger	Adult	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>
		Youth 11v11	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Youth 9v9	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Mini 7v7	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Mini 5v5	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<b>Shortfall of 1</b>
	Burnley	Adult	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 2.5</b>
		Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 0.5	<b>Shortfall of 2</b>
		Youth 9v9	<b>Shortfall of 0.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 2.5	Spare capacity of 1.5
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1.5	Spare capacity of 0.5
3G	East Burnley & Cliviger	Full size, floodlit	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
Cricket	East Burnley & Cliviger	Saturday	<b>Shortfall of 12</b>	<b>Shortfall of 12</b>
		Sunday	<b>Shortfall of 12</b>	<b>Shortfall of 12</b>
		Midweek	<b>Shortfall of 7</b>	<b>Shortfall of 7</b>
	Burnley	Saturday	<b>Shortfall of 15</b>	<b>Shortfall of 15</b>
		Sunday	<b>Shortfall of 3</b>	<b>Shortfall of 3</b>
		Midweek	<b>Shortfall of 16</b>	<b>Shortfall of 22</b>
Rugby union	East Burnley & Cliviger	Senior	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Burnley	Senior	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
Rugby league	Burnley	Provision	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
Hockey	Burnley	Full size, floodlit	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Tennis	Burnley	Courts	Sufficient quantity <b>but quality issues</b>	Sufficient quantity <b>but quality issues</b>
Bowls	Burnley	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Golf	Burnley	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
MUGAs	Burnley	Provision	<b>Shortfalls within the East Burnley &amp; Cliviger and Padiham &amp; Hapton analysis areas</b>	<b>Shortfalls within the East Burnley &amp; Cliviger and Padiham &amp; Hapton analysis areas</b>

<sup>[1]</sup> MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2032)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES
Other sports	Burnley	Provision	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>



**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
7	Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic College	BB10 3AA	AGP	College	One poor quality full size (95x60) sand filled AGP with sports lighting, available for community use.	Explore the feasibility of resurfacing poor quality pitch for both curricular use and community use. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time for repair and resurfacing when necessary. If resurfaced explore the opportunity to bring Pendle Forest HC to the site, ensuring the Club has secure tenure.	College EH EN	Local	M	M	M-H	Enhance Protect
			Netball		Burnley Netball League aspires to grow and has looked into having AGP onsite marked with courts.	Explore the opportunity to mark AGP with Netball courts if Burnley Netball League require.			L	L	L	Provide
13	Burnley FC (Elite Training Centre)	BB10 4BX	3G	Sports Club	One poor quality small sided (30x40) indoor 3G pitch with sports lighting and unavailable for community use.	Explore the feasibility of resurfacing poor quality pitch for elite level use.	Sports club LFA, FF	Local	L	L	M	Enhance Protect
14	Burnley FC (Turf Moor Stadium)	BB10 4BX	Football	Sports Club	Elite stadia for EFL Championship Club, Burnley FC. One good quality adult pitch.	Sustain quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports club LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
31	Mount Lane Playing Fields	BB10 4TL	Football	Parish council	The adult pitch onsite is no longer marked for formal use. In recent years the pitch has not been utilised and therefore maintenance on the site has been limited. The pitch still has goal posts installed, however, would need to have a maintenance regime reinstated to be utilised again for formal match play.	Explore the opportunity to re-establish the site for community football use if required. Protect the site in accordance with Sport England and NPPF guidelines and explore potential future options for the site.	Parish council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
37	Spirit of Sport Blessed Trinity	BB10 3AA	Netball	School	Three poor quality courts with sports lighting. Burnley LTC aspires to resurface and cover the hard court area to extend the Club and create an indoor/covered courts centre for Burnley.	Improve quality of courts through regular, high standard or maintenance, resurfacing if required. Explore the opportunity to resurface courts and cover to extend nearby Burnley Lawn Tennis Club site.	School LTA EN	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect Provide
38	Springfield Community Primary School	BB11 3HP	Football	School	Two poor quality mini 5v5 pitches. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance for school use.	School LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
43	Towneley Park Playing Fields	BB11 3RQ	Football	Council	Seven poor quality adult pitches. Adult pitches have potential spare capacity, which is discounted due to poor pitch quality. Ancillary provision of poor quality.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Develop an appropriate action plan to improve the ancillary facilities on the site which will support and sustain the various sports.	Council LFA FF ECB LCF BCGBA RE	Hub site	H	S-M	M-H	Enhance Protect
			Cricket		Two poor quality squares one with three wickets and the other two wickets. Used by the Burnley District Cricket League.	Based on levels of demand explore the need to maintain grass squares or if it would be more beneficial/practical to install NTPs.			L	S	L	Protect Provide
			Bowls		One good quality green with no sports lighting.	Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance.			L	L	L	Protect
			Rounders		Four good quality rounders pitches.	Ensure pitches are marked out as required to meet demand.			L	L	L	Protect

**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
44	Burnley Cricket Club	BB10 4BN	Cricket	Sport Club	One good quality square with ten senior and six junior wickets. The former is overplayed by 12 match equivalent sessions a season whereas the latter are overplayed by seven match equivalent sessions a season. Site is owned by Burnley CC which aspires to enhance its ancillary provision. It also aspires for additional practice facilities.	Sustain good quality square with appropriate levels of maintenance. Explore options to alleviate overplay including but not limited to, installing an NTP / Hybrid wicket. Explore the feasibility of assisting the Club with ancillary enhancements and practice facilities.	Sports club ECB LCB	Local	M	M	L-M	Protect Enhance
45	Unity College	BB11 3DF	Football	School	One adult and two youth 9v9 pitches of poor quality. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance for school use.	School LFA FF LFA FF RFU ECB LCF	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
			3G		One good quality full size (62x100) 3G pitch, with sports lighting and unavailable for community use. Resurfaced from sand filled AGP in 2022.	Sustain pitch quality with appropriate maintenance. Engage with the School to understand and address barriers to community use, to open up access for use by community clubs and groups.			L	L	L	Protect
			Rugby union		Two junior size pitches of M1/D0 (Poor) quality. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance for school use.			L	L	L	Enhance Protect
			Cricket		One standalone NTP not available for community use.	Retain as current use and improve in quality when required.			L	L	L	Protect
48	Worsthorne Primary School	BB10 3LR	Football	School	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance for school use.	School LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
49	Worsthorne Recreation Ground	BB10 3LY	Football	Council	The site has been reconfigured and had improvements made to the grass area. There are plans for the site to be used, as of the 2022/23 season. The site will accommodate a youth 11v11, youth 9v9, mini 7v7 and mini 5v5 pitch. As part of the development, a new clubhouse and MUGA which is marked out and will be used as a car park on match days have been developed. The site will be home to Fullede Colts FC, which secured FF funding to support the site development.	When operational undertake FF pitch power assessments to determine pitch quality. Ensure that the site is added to the PPOSS supply when the site is active. Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance. Assist where possible Fullede Colts FC with PitchPower Assessments and any funding bids.	Council Sports club LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect
			MUGA		One good quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Sustain court quality with appropriate maintenance.			L	L	L	Protect
64	Towneley Park Causeway End	BB11 3ED	Bowls	Council	Two standard quality greens with no sports lighting.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council BCGBA LTA	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
			Tennis (Disused)			There are three disused shale tennis courts onsite. It is unknown exactly when the provision was last actively maintained and utilised, however, they have not been used for several years.			Carry out relevant consultation as part of the Towneley Masterplan for the future use of the space as there is no demand for tennis.	L	L	L

**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
78	Fulledge Recreation Ground	BB10 4LW	Football (Informal)	Council	Aspirations to develop informal recreational football provision.	Explore the opportunity to develop recreational football provision.	Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Provide
			MUGA		One standard quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to develop the improve MUGA quality through potential funding streams.			M	M	L	Enhance Protect
82	Burnley Lawn Tennis Club	BB10 4BW	Tennis	Sports Club	Six good quality artificial turf courts, three of which have sports lighting and three have no sports lighting. Burnley LTC reports that ancillary provision needs updating and has plans to extend the clubhouse. The Club aspires for some form of covered/indoor tennis provision.	Sustain court quality with appropriate maintenance. Explore the opportunity to install sports lighting on the three unlit courts. Explore the opportunity to develop and improve ancillary provision. Explore the feasibility of establishing covered/indoor tennis provision.	Sports Club LTA	Local	M	L	L	Enhance Provide Protect
85	Towneley Golf Club	BB11 3ED	Golf	Burnley Leisure	Good quality 18-hole golf course, whilst also operating an 18-hole pitch and putt course.	Sustain golf course quality with appropriate maintenance.	Trust EG	Local	L	L	L	Protect
88	Burnley Wood Park	BB11 3HS	MUGA	Council	Two standard quality MUGAs with sports lighting.	Look to develop the improve MUGA quality through potential funding streams.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
97	Brunshaw Golf Course	BB10 4SD	Golf	Council	A disused nine-hole Par 3 course in Burnley known as Brunshaw Golf Course. The course has not been maintained or available as a functional golf facility since 2019.	Surplus to requirements so consider re-purposing / alternative uses. Ensure continued dialogue with England Golf and Sport England with any future plans.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Protect

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

## SOUTH BURNLEY ANALYSIS AREA

### Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2032)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	South Burnley	Adult	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Youth 11v11	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Youth 9v9	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Mini 7v7	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Mini 5v5	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Burnley	Adult	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 2.5</b>
		Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 0.5	<b>Shortfall of 2</b>
		Youth 9v9	<b>Shortfall of 0.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 2.5	Spare capacity of 1.5
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1.5	Spare capacity of 0.5
3G	South Burnley	Full size, floodlit	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
Cricket	South Burnley	Saturday	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Sunday	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Midweek	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Burnley	Saturday	<b>Shortfall of 15</b>	<b>Shortfall of 15</b>
		Sunday	<b>Shortfall of 3</b>	<b>Shortfall of 3</b>
		Midweek	<b>Shortfall of 16</b>	<b>Shortfall of 22</b>
Rugby union	South Burnley	Senior	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Burnley	Senior	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session	Spare capacity of 1 match equivalent session
Rugby league	Burnley	Provision	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
Hockey	Burnley	Full size, floodlit	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Tennis	Burnley	Courts	Sufficient quantity <b>but quality issues</b>	Sufficient quantity <b>but quality issues</b>
Bowls	Burnley	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Golf	Burnley	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
MUGAs	Burnley	Provision	<b>Shortfalls within the East Burnley &amp; Cliviger and Padiham &amp; Hapton analysis areas</b>	<b>Shortfalls within the East Burnley &amp; Cliviger and Padiham &amp; Hapton analysis areas</b>

<sup>[1]</sup> MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2032)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES
Other sports	Burnley	Provision	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>

**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
17	Cherryfold Community Primary School	BB11 5JS	Football	School	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance for school use.	School LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
24	Hameldon Community College (Closed)	BB11 5BT	Football	Private	Previously had one youth 11v11 pitch marked onsite, however, the site is now closed. The College most recently (2021/22) has been used as a campus for Rhyddings Business and Enterprise School, however, it has now returned back to the management of management company Engie under the original private finance initiative (PFI) from the College's rebuild in 2010. Recent developments indicate Broadfield Specialist School, from the neighbouring authority of Hyndburn, will be relocating to the site for the start of the new School term in 2022.	Explore the opportunity to secure access to community use of facilities with school reopening in September 2022.	Private School LFA FF EH LTA EN	Local	H	S	L	Protect Provide
			AGP		One poor quality full size (100x60) sand filled AGP with sports lighting unavailable for community use.	Explore the feasibility of resurfacing poor quality pitch for school use. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Explore the opportunity to secure access to community use of facilities with school reopening in September 2022.			H	S	M-H	Enhance Protect Provide
			Tennis		Four standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting.	Improve quality of courts through regular, high standard or maintenance, resurfacing if required.			L	L	L	Enhance Protect
			Netball		Three standard quality courts with no sports lighting.	Improve quality of courts through regular, high standard or maintenance, resurfacing if required.			L	L	L	Enhance Protect
52	Green Hill Bowling Club	BB11 4JQ	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality green with no sports lighting.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.	Council BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
60	Scott Park	BB11 4JN	Tennis	Council	Two poor quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. The site has been identified as one which requires investment through the LTA investment scheme. The plan is for the courts to be completely resurfaced.	Used approved capacity funding to improve the courts including installing a Gate Access System and full court refurbishment.	Council LTA BCGBA	Local	H	S-M	L-M	Enhance Protect
			Bowls		One good quality green with no sports lighting. Scott Park BC has a dwindling membership, and the club should be	Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance. Monitor Scott Park BC membership to ensure green is sustainable.			L	L	L	Protect



**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
			MUGA		monitored to ensure green can be sustainable. One standard quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve quality with enhanced maintenance.			L	L	L	Enhance Protect
65	Sunny Clough Park (Informal)	BB11 5LZ	Football (Informal)	Council	1 x set of small goals including AstroTurf goalmouth.	Protect pitch for informal use and maintain as required	Council LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
68	Healywood Park, Evans Street (Informal)	BB11 2LJ	Football (Informal)	Council	Large, grassed area incorporating set of small goals. The Council is looking to install astroTurf in the goal mouths to support informal/recreational demand.	Improve goal mouth areas to support the development of informal/recreational demand.	Council LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Enhance
72	Barclay Hills (Informal)	BB11 5EX	Football (Informal)	Council	1 x set of small goals on grassed area.	Protect pitch for informal use and maintain as required	Council LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
79	Melrose Avenue (Informal)	BB11 4DY	Football (Informal)	Council	Existing set of small goalposts for informal football on grass.	Protect pitch for informal use and maintain as required	Council LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
86	Burnley Golf Club	BB11 3RW	Golf	Sports Club	Good quality 18-hole golf course. Ancillary provision of good quality.	Sustain golf course quality with appropriate maintenance.	Trust EG	Local	L	L	L	Protect
90	Every Street	BB11 4AJ	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to improve quality with enhanced maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
91	Forfar Street	BB11 4ER	MUGA	Council	One standard quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to improve quality with enhanced maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
92	Hargher Clough Park	BB11 4BA	MUGA	Council	Two standard quality MUGAs with sports lighting.	Look to improve quality with enhanced maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
93	Healey Heights	BB11 2JH	MUGA	Council	One standard quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to improve quality with enhanced maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
95	Piccadilly Gardens	BB11 4QF	MUGA	Council	One poor quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to improve quality with enhanced maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
96	Vanguard Community Centre	BB11 4PZ	MUGA	Community organisation	One poor quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to improve quality with enhanced maintenance.	Council	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

## WEST BURNLEY ANALYSIS AREA

### Summary

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand		Future demand (2032)
		Pitch type	Current capacity total in MES <sup>[1]</sup>	Future capacity total in MES
Football (grass pitches)	West Burnley	Adult	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Youth 11v11	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Youth 9v9	Spare capacity of 0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 0.5	Spare capacity of 0.5
	Burnley	Adult	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 2.5</b>
		Youth 11v11	Spare capacity of 0.5	<b>Shortfall of 2</b>
		Youth 9v9	<b>Shortfall of 0.5</b>	<b>Shortfall of 1.5</b>
		Mini 7v7	Spare capacity of 2.5	Spare capacity of 1.5
		Mini 5v5	Spare capacity of 1.5	Spare capacity of 0.5
3G	West Burnley	Full size, floodlit	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
Cricket	West Burnley	Saturday	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Sunday	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
		Midweek	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Burnley	Saturday	<b>Shortfall of 15</b>	<b>Shortfall of 15</b>
		Sunday	<b>Shortfall of 3</b>	<b>Shortfall of 3</b>
		Midweek	<b>Shortfall of 16</b>	<b>Shortfall of 22</b>
Rugby union	West Burnley	Senior	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
	Burnley	Senior	Spare capacity of 1	Spare capacity of 1
Rugby league	Burnley	Provision	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>
Hockey	Burnley	Full size, floodlit	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Tennis	Burnley	Courts	Sufficient quantity <b>but quality issues</b>	Sufficient quantity <b>but quality issues</b>
Bowls	Burnley	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
Golf	Burnley	Provision	Sufficient quantity	Sufficient quantity
MUGAs	Burnley	Provision	<b>Shortfalls within the East Burnley &amp; Cliviger and Padiham &amp; Hapton analysis areas</b>	<b>Shortfalls within the East Burnley &amp; Cliviger and Padiham &amp; Hapton analysis areas</b>
Other sports	Burnley	Provision	<i>Demand is being met</i>	<i>Demand is being met</i>

<sup>[1]</sup> MES – match equivalent sessions per week (per season for cricket)

**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
19	Crow Wood Leisure	BB12 0RT	3G	Commercial	Two standard quality small sided (30x40) 3G pitches and five standard quality small sided (18x32) 3G pitches, all with sports lighting and available for community use. Pitches are not on the FA 3G Pitch Register.	Look to improve quality with appropriate maintenance. Explore opportunity to resurface pitches to 3G to support small sided football. Ensure the provider has in place a mechanism for future sustainability, such as a sinking fund formed over time for repair and resurfacing when necessary. Explore the feasibility of the pitches being tested to go on the FA 3G Pitch Register.	Commercial LFA FF	Local	L	M-L	L-M	Enhance Protect
28	Lockyer Avenue	BB12 6BY	Football	Council	Two mini 5v5, one mini 7v7, one youth 11v11 and one youth 9v9 pitches all of standard quality. The mini 5v5 pitches has actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. Mini 7v7 pitch has actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. Youth 11v11 pitch is played to capacity at peak time. Youth 9v9 has actual spare capacity of 0.5 MES per week. AFC Wolves highlights issues with drainage onsite, however reports that improvements for the drainage onsite is planned. Ancillary provision of poor quality. The Club aspires to have a new clubhouse built, with changing rooms, kitchen, toilets, meeting room and disabled access included. Burnley Borough Council currently leases the site from Lancashire County Council. The Borough Council is looking to grant a long-term sub-lease agreement to AFC Wolves. <b>Since the production of the initial draft a new 23-year lease has been secured for the Club on the site (2022).</b>	Look to improve quality with appropriate maintenance. Explore opportunity to make improvements to drainage across the site. Explore the potential of improving and developing new ancillary provision. Explore the opportunity to add to the LFFP priority list for pitch improvements.	Council Sports club LFA FF	Local	M-H	S-M	M-H	Enhance Protect Provide
39	St Mary Magdalene's Roman Catholic Primary School	BB12 0JD	Football	School	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance for school use.	School LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
41	Sycamore Avenue	BB12 6DH	Football	Council	Previously accommodated up to two mini 7v7 pitches, one youth 9v9 pitch and one mini 5v5 pitch. The site is now maintained as a park.	Explore if the site needs to be retained on the LFFP when updated	Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect

**BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

Site ID	Site	Postcode	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Priority	Timescales	Cost	Aim
					Previously listed on the LFFP priority list for pitch improvements.							
47	Wellfield Methodist And Anglican Church School	BB12 0JD	Football	School	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch. Unavailable for community use.	Look to improve pitch quality with enhanced maintenance for school use.	School LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Enhance Protect
53	Ighten Mount Bowling Club	BB12 8AF	Bowls	Sports Club	One good quality green with sports lighting.	Sustain green quality with appropriate maintenance.	Sports Club BCGBA	Local	L	L	L	Protect
54	Ightenhill Park	BB12 0LH	Tennis	Council	Two standard quality macadam courts with no sports lighting. The site has been identified as one which requires investment through the LTA investment scheme.	Used approved capacity funding to improve the courts including installing a Gate Access System.			H	S-M	L-M	Protect Enhance
			Bowls		Two standard quality greens with no sports lighting.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance.			L	L	L	Enhance Protect
			MUGA		One standard quality MUGA with no sports lighting.	Look to develop the improve MUGA quality through potential funding streams.			M	M	L	Enhance Protect
55	Lowerhouse BC	BB12 6LN	Bowls	Sports Club	One standard quality with no sports lighting. Lowerhouse BC aspires to install sports lighting for the green.	Look to improve green quality with enhanced levels of maintenance. Explore the opportunity to install sports lighting for the green.	Sports Club BCGBA	Local	L	L	M	Enhance Protect
67	Calder Park	BB12 0PB	Football (Informal)	Council	Large, grassed area incorporating set of small goals.	Protect pitch for informal use and maintain as required	Council LFA, FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
71	Whittlefield Recreation Ground	BB12 0JF	Football (Informal)	Council	One x goalpost on grassed area near to MUGA (poor drainage).	Protect pitch for informal use and maintain as required	Council LFA FF	Local	L	L	L	Protect Provide
			MUGA		One standard quality MUGA with sports lighting.	Look to improve quality with enhanced maintenance.						

### PART 7: HOUSING GROWTH SCENARIOS

The PPOSS provides an estimate of demand for pitch sport based on population forecasts and club consultation to 2032 (providing a 10-year forecast). This future demand is translated into teams likely to be generated, rather than actual provision required. Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculator (PPC) adds to this, updating the likely demand generated for pitch sports based on housing increases and converts the demand into match equivalent sessions and the number of pitches required. It also gives the associated costs of supplying the increased pitch provision. The Calculator splits the total pitch requirement into natural turf pitches to meet peak period demand, artificial grass pitches to meet training demand, and the additional number of changing rooms required to support the new demand.

Experience shows that housing sites with 600 dwellings or more are likely to generate demand for new provision to be created. For such large scale developments, consideration should be given to providing multi-pitch sites with suitable ancillary provision, including appropriate clubhouse/changing facilities and car parking. Single pitch sites which have been provided traditionally by developers are not considered to provide long term sustainable provision for the relevant sports.

Where demand does not warrant new pitch provision, the Action Plan in this document should be consulted to determine whether the additional demand can be accommodated via existing provision (in which case no further action is required). If this is not the case, contributions should be sought to enhance existing provision in the locality to accommodate the increased demand. This can be through, for example, improving quality, or providing new or improved ancillary provision. Consultation with appropriate NGBs should also be used to assist in the selection of suitable sites and suitable enhancements.

The scenarios below are provided as a guide to show the potential additional demand for pitch sports that could be generated from housing growth in Burnley, thus showing how the calculator works and what it provides. The demand is shown in match equivalent sessions per week for most sports, except for cricket, where match equivalent sessions are by season. Training demand is expressed in either hours or match equivalent sessions. Where expressed in hours, it is expected that demand will be to either a 3G pitch (to accommodate football demand) or an AGP (to accommodate hockey demand). Where expressed in match equivalent sessions, it is expected training will take place on floodlit grass pitches (rugby).

The scenarios are based on figures evidenced within Burnley Borough Councils Housing Land Supply Assessment (October 2021) which can evidence in excess of nine years housing land supply.

- ◀ **Scenario One** – 163 dwellings per annum
- ◀ **Scenario Two** – 1,504 dwellings over the nine year period

For reference, the indicative figures assume that population growth will average 2.3<sup>8</sup> per dwelling.

The population figures used in the PPC are updated regularly and are therefore based on the most recent population data in comparison to the figures used within the Assessment report which are based on static ONS 2018 projections. As a result, the scenarios below are based on the most recent data which includes an increase of 277 people.

---

<sup>8</sup> The occupancy rate of 2.3 is in line with figures used in the 2011 Census.

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

### Scenario One – 163 dwelling per annum

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 163 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 375 people per annum. As there is no rugby union or rugby league, the population increases equate to 0.26 match equivalent sessions of demand per week solely on football grass pitches. For cricket demand equates to 1.16 match equivalent sessions of demand per season.

Similarly, as there is no hockey demand within the Borough there is no anticipated growth.

Table 7.1: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 163 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 163 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>9</sup>	Training demand <sup>10</sup>
Adult football	0.05	0.53 hours
Youth football (11v11)	0.07	
Youth football (9v9)	0.07	
Mini soccer (7v7)	0.05	
Mini soccer (5v5)	0.03	
Rugby union	-	0 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	-	0 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	-	0 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	-	0 hours
Cricket	1.16	-

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifestyle costs.

Table 7.2: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>11</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>12</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.05	£5,078	£1,072	0.10	£17,520
Youth football	0.14	£10,543	£2,214	0.17	£27,964
Mini soccer	0.08	£1,877	£394	0	£0
Rugby union	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.02	£6,887	£1,391	0.05	£8,054
Sand based AGPs	0	£0	£0	0	£0
3G	0.01	£13,493	£515	0.03	£4,679

<sup>9</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>10</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>11</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>12</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)



## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

### Scenario Two – 1,504 dwelling over the nine year period

The estimated additional population derived from housing growth from 1,504 dwellings with an occupancy rate of 2.3 per household is 3,459 people. As there is no rugby union or rugby league, the population increases equate to 2.45 match equivalent sessions of demand per week solely on football grass pitches. For cricket demand equates to 10.73 match equivalent sessions of demand per season.

Similarly, as there is no hockey demand within the Borough there is no anticipated growth.

Table 7.3: Likely demand for grass pitch sports generated from 1,504 dwellings

Pitch sport	Estimated demand by sport for 1,504 dwellings	
	Match demand (MES) per week <sup>13</sup>	Training demand <sup>14</sup>
Adult football	0.48	4.90 hours
Youth football (11v11)	0.77	
Youth football (9v9)	0.48	
Mini soccer (7v7)	0.42	
Mini soccer (5v5)	0.29	
Rugby union	-	0 match equivalent sessions
Rugby league	-	0 match equivalent sessions
Adult hockey	-	0 hours
Junior & mixed hockey	-	0 hours
Cricket	10.73	-

The table below translates estimated demand into new pitch provision with associated capital and lifestyle costs.

Table 7.4: Estimated demand and costs for new pitch provision

Pitch type	Estimated demand and costs for new pitches			Changing rooms	
	Number of pitches to meet demand	Capital cost <sup>15</sup>	Lifecycle Cost (per annum) <sup>16</sup>	Number	Capital cost
Adult football	0.48	£46,828	£9,881	0.97	£161,555
Youth football	1.25	£97,242	£20,421	1.54	£258,023
Mini soccer	0.71	£17,329	£3,639	0	£0
Rugby union	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Rugby league	0	£0	£0	0	£0
Cricket	0.22	£63,510	£12,829	0.44	£74,275
Sand based AGPs	0	£0	£0	0	£0
3G	0.01	£124,477	£4,748	0.26	£43,160

<sup>13</sup> As per the PPS Guidance, demand for cricket is considered in terms of match equivalent sessions per season rather than per week.

<sup>14</sup> Hours equate to access to a full size floodlit 3G pitch or hockey suitable AGP

<sup>15</sup> Sport England Facilities Costs Second Quarter 2020 – (<https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/cost-guidance/>)

<sup>16</sup> Lifecycle costs are based on the % of the total project cost per annum as set out in Sport England's Life Cycle Costs Natural Turf Pitches and Artificial Surfaces documents (2012)

### **The most appropriate way to meet the estimated demand**

It is important that the above results are looked at alongside the findings of the Assessment Report, and the recommendations and actions of the Strategy. By doing so, the most appropriate way of meeting the estimated needs can be determined and any resulting proposals justified. This should include:

- ◀ Using the Assessment Report and related Strategy to understand the nature of the playing pitch sites within an appropriate catchment of the new population along with issues, recommendations and actions relevant to that area.
- ◀ Looking at the different ways in which the needs could be met, including for example:
  - ◀ Enhancing existing provision to increase capacity, supported by suitable management and maintenance arrangements to ensure the greater capacity is maintained over the longer term;
  - ◀ Undertaking works, and ensuring long term maintenance and access arrangements, to secure new or greater community use of existing provision;
  - ◀ Providing new pitches as an extension on current sites.
  - ◀ Providing new (natural and/or artificial grass pitches).

If the decision is taken to provide new pitches, then the calculator takes the estimated needs for matches and training activity and converts this into an estimate of the likely pitch provision required to meet the needs of population projections. Indicative costs are also provided to provide this level of pitch provision in addition to costing for associated changing room provision.

### **Conclusion**

For the scenarios above, the tables show that, through planned housing growth relating to Burnley Borough Council's Housing Land Supply Assessment there will be demand generated for football (grass pitch and 3G) and cricket.

Even when considering the amount of population growth for the next nine years of strategic growth, demand generated is insufficient to warrant the creation of new provision. Therefore, contributions would be better focused on improving existing local sites to increase capacity to an appropriate level.

It should also be acknowledged that when considering any potential disposal of disused sites identified within the PPOSS, consideration should be given as to whether these sites can sustainably be brought back into use to meet future need before deciding on disposal and replacement to meet Sport England's Playing Field Policy.

Please note that the PPC only includes the main pitch sports but there may also be a requirement to improve facilities for other pitch and non-pitch sports such as softball, lacrosse, tennis, bowls and athletics, for example. Therefore, securing developer contributions to deliver improvements/new provision should be guided by this Strategy and in particular the site by site Action Plan and in consultation with the relevant NGB through the PPOSS Steering Group.

### **PART 8: DELIVER THE STRATEGY AND KEEP IT ROBUST AND UP TO DATE**

The section below is a generalised approach on how to deliver a PPOSS whilst also keeping it robust and up to date. However, a more tailored approach should also be considered and designed for Burnley based on the requirements and priorities of the Steering Group.

#### ***Delivery***

The PPOSS seeks to provide guidance for maintenance/management decisions and investment made across Burnley. By addressing the issues identified in the Assessment Report and using the strategic framework presented in this Strategy, the current and future sporting and recreational needs of the Borough can be satisfied. The Strategy identifies where there is a deficiency in provision and identifies how best to resolve this in the future.

It is important that this document is used in a practical manner, is engaged with partners and encourages partnerships to be developed, to ensure that outdoor sports facilities are regarded as a vital aspect of community life and which contribute to the achievement of Council priorities.

The creation of this document should be regarded as part of the planning process. The success of this Strategy and the benefits that are gained are dependent upon regular engagement between all partners involved and the adoption of a strategic approach. Each member of the steering group should take the lead to ensure the PPOSS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence.

To help ensure the PPOSS is well used, it should be regarded as the key document within the study area guiding the improvement and protection of playing pitch and outdoor sport provision. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on the how the current demand is met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand. In order for this to be achieved, the Steering Group needs to have a clear understanding of how the PPOSS can be applied and therefore delivered.

The process of completing the PPOSS will hopefully have already resulted in a number of benefits that will help with its application and delivery. These may include enhanced partnership working across different agendas and organisations, pooling of resources along with strengthening relationships and understanding between different stakeholders and between members of the steering group and the sporting community. The drivers behind the PPOSS and the work to develop the recommendations and action plan will have also highlighted, and helped the steering group to understand, the key areas to which it can be applied and how it can be delivered.

#### ***Monitoring and updating***

It is important that there is regular monitoring and review against the actions identified in the Strategy. This monitoring should continue to be led by the local authority and supported by all members of, and reported back to, the Steering Group. Understanding and learning lessons from how the PPOSS has been applied should also form a key component of monitoring its delivery. It is possible that in the interim between reviews the Steering Group could also operate as a 'virtual' group; prepared to comment on suggestions and updates electronically when relevant.

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

It is agreed that the Council (potentially via consultants e.g., KKP) is responsible for keeping the database and background supply and demand information up to date in order that area-by-area action plans can be updated. This should be carried out in consultation with the NGBs, particularly around affiliation time when information is updated. This is generally done on an annual basis with a need to have a complete refresh of the PPOSS required after five years if the aforementioned data is kept relevant.

As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPOSS being signed off by the steering group, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider it and the information on which it is based to be out of date. The nature of the supply and in particular the demand for provision is likely to change year-on-year, meaning that without any form of review and update it would be difficult to make the case that the supply and demand information and assessment work is sufficiently robust.

An annual review should not be regarded as a particularly resource intensive task. However, it should highlight:

- ◀ How the delivery of the recommendations and action plan has progressed and any changes required to the priority afforded to each action (e.g., the priority of some may increase following the delivery of others).
- ◀ How the PPOSS has been applied and the lessons learnt.
- ◀ Any changes to particularly important sites and/or clubs in the area (e.g., the most used or high quality sites for a particular sport) and other supply and demand information, what this may mean for the overall assessment work and the key findings and issues.
- ◀ Any development of a specific sport or particular format of a sport.
- ◀ Any new or emerging issues and opportunities.

Initial thoughts are that this should be led by Greenspaces teams at the Council, however, this has not been confirmed. The Planning Policy Team completes an Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) annually which would include elements such as the PPOSS in line with the Local Plan monitoring targets. If Greenspaces could provide such information aforementioned information, some of it could possibly be included within the AMR.

Alongside regular steering group meetings a good way to keep the strategy up to date and maintain relationships is to hold sport specific meetings with the NGBs and other relevant parties. These meetings look to update the key supply and demand information, if necessary amend the assessment work, track progress with implementing the recommendations and action plan and highlight any new issues and opportunities.


These meetings could be timed to fit with the annual affiliation process undertaken by the NGBs which would help to capture any changes in the number and nature of sports clubs in the area. Other information that is already collected on a regular basis such as pitch booking records for local authority and other sites could be fed into these meetings.

The NGBs are also able to indicate any further performance quality assessments that have been undertaken within the study area.

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

## Checklist

To help ensure the PPS is delivered and is kept robust and up to date, the steering group can refer to the new methodology Stage E Checklist: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date:

Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date	Tick 	
	Yes	Requires Attention
<b>Step 9: Apply &amp; deliver the strategy</b>		
1. Are steering group members clear on how the PPS can be applied across a range of relevant areas?		
2. Is each member of the steering group committed to taking the lead to help ensure the PPS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence?		
3. Has a process been put in place to ensure regular monitoring of how the recommendations and action plan are being delivered and the PPS is being applied?		
<b>Step 10: Keep the strategy robust &amp; up to date</b>		
1. Has a process been put in place to ensure the PPS is kept robust and up to date?		
2. Does the process involve an annual update of the PPS?		
3. Is the steering group to be maintained and is it clear of its on-going role?		
4. Is regular liaison with the NGBs and other parties planned?		
5. Has all the supply and demand information been collated and presented in a format (i.e. single document that can be filtered accordingly) that will help people to review it and highlight any changes?		
6. Have any changes made to the Active Places Power data been fed back to Sport England?		

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

## APPENDIX ONE: TAILORED APPROACH FOR BURNLEY STAGE E

What?	Who?	When?
<p>1. Internal steering group meeting</p> <p>Meeting between council officers internal steering group members to discuss and log key changes in provision, covering:</p> <p>New pitch provision Pitch improvements Pitch re-configuration Pitch loss/threat Community access agreements (e.g. Education/private sites) Plans for future provision</p> <p>The outcomes from the meeting and updates to documents should be recorded.</p>	<p>Burnley Borough Council / MCR Active</p>	<p>Bi-annually</p>
<p>2. Sport England and NGB update meetings</p> <p>The Council to hold series of update meetings with individual sports NGBs to discuss and log:</p> <p>Any changes in club and team details Any changes in sport format Any site specific updates Changes to supply and demand data The application and use of the PPOSS e.g. In delivery of new or improved provision, funding opportunities, programmes and initiatives Any new issues and opportunities.</p>	<p>Burnley Borough Council NGBs Sport England</p>	<p>Annually for each sport, to fit with affiliation process (generally October for winter sports and June for summer sports)</p>



## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

What?	Who?	When?
<p>3<sup>17</sup>. Prepare annual PPOSS progress paper</p> <p>Based on the outcome of actions above, a short annual PPOSS progress and update paper should be produced, highlighting:</p> <p>The delivery of PPOSS recommendations and any changes in priority;</p> <p>Changes to particularly important sites and/or clubs in the area and other supply and demand information with implications for PPOSS key findings;</p> <p>Details of any developments of a specific sport or particular format;</p> <p>Details of any new or emerging issues and opportunities;</p> <p>Any issues with the application of the PPOSS and lessons learnt;</p> <p>Actions needed to keep the PPOSS 'live' and up to date.</p> <p>Based on the above, the annual progress paper will also consider if a partial or full update of the PPOSS is required.</p> <p>Alternatively, both the assessment report and the strategy can be updated to take into account and referencing all of the above.</p>	PPOSS steering group	Annually
<p>4. Circulation and agreement</p> <p>Circulate the annual progress paper or updated PPOSS document to the steering group for comment and agreement with opportunity to hold a further meeting to discuss findings and issues.</p>	PPOSS steering group	Annually
<p>5. Publish paper</p> <p>Make annual progress paper or updated documents available online; report any significant findings to appropriate committee if considered necessary.</p>	Burnley Borough Council	Annually – following completion of all of the above

<sup>17</sup> Sport England has produced a model Annual Monitoring Report which can be tailored to meet the needs of the Council.

### APPENDIX TWO: GLOSSARY

**Capacity** is the amount of play a site can regularly accommodate (in the relevant comparable unit) for community use without adversely affecting its quality and use. This is typically outlined by the NGB.

**Overplay** is when a pitch is used over the amount that the carrying capacity will allow, (i.e. more than the site can accommodate). Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected.

**Spare capacity** is the amount of additional play that a pitch could potentially accommodate in addition to current activity. There may be reasons why this potential to accommodate additional play should not automatically be regarded as actual spare capacity, for example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below its carrying capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of friendly matches and training activity. This needs to be investigated before the capacity is deemed **actual spare capacity**.

**Match equivalent sessions** is an appropriate comparable unit for pitch usage. For football, rugby union and rugby league, pitches should relate to a typical week within the season and one match = one match equivalent session if it occurs every week or 0.5 match equivalent sessions if it occurs every other week (i.e. reflecting home and away fixtures). For cricket pitches, it is appropriate to look at the number of match equivalent sessions over the course of a season and one match = one match equivalent session.

**Displaced demand** generally relates to play by teams or other users of playing pitches from within the study area (i.e. from residents of the study area) which takes place outside of the area. This may be due to issues with the provision of pitches and ancillary facilities in the study area, just reflective of how the sports are played (e.g. at a central venue for the wider area) or due to the most convenient site for the respective users just falling outside of the local authority/study area.

**Unmet demand** is demand that is known to exist but unable to be accommodated on current supply of pitches. This could be in the form of a team with access to a pitch for matches but nowhere to train or vice versa. This could also be due to the poor quality and therefore limited capacity of pitches in the area and/or a lack of provision and ancillary facilities which meet a certain standard of play/league requirement. League secretaries may be aware of some unmet demand as they may have declined applications from teams wishing to enter their competitions due to a lack of pitch provision which in turn is hindering the growth of the league.

**Latent demand** is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. This could include feedback from a sports club who may feel that they could set up and run an additional team if they had access to better provision.

**Future demand** is an informed estimate made of the likely future demand for pitches in the study area. This is generally based on the most appropriate current and future population projections for the relevant age and gender groupings for each sport. Key trends, local objectives and targets and consultation also inform this figure.

**Casual use** or other use could take place on natural grass pitches or AGPs and include:

- ◀ Regular play from non-sports club sources (e.g. companies, schools, fitness classes)
- ◀ Infrequent informal/friendly matches
- ◀ Informal training sessions
- ◀ More casual forms of a particular sport organised by sports clubs or other parties

## **BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY**

---

- ◀ Significant public use and informal play, particularly where pitches are located in parks/recreation grounds.

### APPENDIX THREE: SPORTING CONTEXT

The following section outlines a series of national, regional and local policies pertaining to the study and which will have an important influence on the Strategy.

#### National context

The provision of high quality and accessible community outdoor sports facilities at a local level is a key requirement for achieving the targets set out by the Government and Sport England. It is vital that this strategy is cognisant of and works towards these targets in addition to local priorities and plans.

#### ***Department of Media Culture and Sport Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation (2015)***

The Government published its strategy for sport in December 2015. This strategy confirms the recognition and understanding that sport makes a positive difference through broader means and that it will help the sector to deliver five simple but fundamental outcomes: physical health, mental health, individual development, social and community development and economic development. In order to measure its success in producing outputs which accord with these aims it has also adopted a series of 23 performance indicators under nine key headings, as follows:

- ◀
- ◀ More people taking part in sport and physical activity.
- ◀ More people volunteering in sport.
- ◀ More people experiencing live sport.
- ◀ Maximising international sporting success.
- ◀ Maximising domestic sporting success.
- ◀ Maximising domestic sporting success.
- ◀ A more productive sport sector.
- ◀ A more financially and organisationally sustainable sport sector.
- ◀ A more responsible sport sector.

#### ***Sport England: Uniting the Movement (2021)***

Sport and physical activity have a big role to play in improving the physical and mental health of the nation, supporting the economy, reconnecting communities and rebuilding a stronger society for all. From this notion, Sport England has recently released its new strategy, Uniting the Movement, its 10-year vision to transform lives and communities through sport and physical activity.

It seeks to tackle the inequalities long seen in sport and physical activity. Providing opportunities to people and communities that have traditionally been left behind, and helping to remove the barriers to activity, has never been more important.

There are three key objectives to the Strategy:

- ◀ Advocating for movement, sport and physical activity.
- ◀ Joining forces on five big issues
- ◀ Creating the catalyst for change

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

In particular, the five big issues are identified where the greatest potential is seen for preventing and tackling inequalities in sport and physical activity. Each one is a building block that, on its own, would make a difference, but together, could change things profoundly:

**Recover and reinvent:** Recovering from the biggest crisis in a generation and reinventing as a vibrant, relevant and sustainable network of organisations providing sport and physical activity opportunities that meet the needs of different people.

**Connecting communities:** Focusing on sport and physical activity's ability to make better places to live and bring people together.

**Positive experiences for children and young people:** Unrelenting focus on positive experiences for all children and young people as the foundations for a long and healthy life.

**Connecting with health and wellbeing:** Strengthening the connections between sport, physical activity, health and wellbeing, so more people can feel the benefits of, and advocate for, an active life.

**Active environments:** Creating and protecting the places and spaces that make it easier for people to be active.

The specific impact of the Strategy will be captured through programmes funded, interventions made, and partnerships forged. For each specific area of action, a set of key performance indicators will be developed. This hybrid approach will help evidence the overall progress being made by all those involved in supporting sport and physical activity.

### **National Planning Policy Framework (amended 2021)**

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out planning policies for England. It details how these changes are expected to be applied to the planning system. It also provides a framework for local people and their councils to produce distinct local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities.

The NPPF states the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It identifies that the planning system needs to focus on three themes of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making the NPPF sets out that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

The 'promoting healthy communities' theme identifies that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficiencies or surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

As a prerequisite the NPPF states existing open space, sports and recreation buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- ◀ An assessment has been undertaken, which has clearly shown that the open space, buildings or land is surplus to requirements.
- ◀ The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location.

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

- ◀ The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

In order for planning policies to be 'sound' local authorities are required to carry out a robust assessment of need for open space, sport and recreation facilities.

### ***The FA National Football Facilities Strategy (2018-28)***

The Football Association's (FA) National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS) provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a ten-year period.

The Strategy sets out shared aims and objectives it aims to deliver on in conjunction with The Premier League, Sport England and the Government, to be delivered with support of the Football Foundation.

These stakeholders have clearly identified the aspirations for football to contribute directly to nationally important social and health priorities. Alongside this, the strategy is clear that traditional, affiliated football remains an important priority and a core component of the game, whilst recognising and supporting the more informal environments used for the community and recreational game.

Its vision is: *"Within 10 years we aim to deliver great football facilities, wherever they are needed"*

£1.3 billion has been spent by football and Government since 2000 to enhance existing football facilities and build new ones. However, more is needed if football and Government's shared objectives for participation, individual well-being and community cohesion are to be achieved. Nationally, direct investment will be increased – initially to £69 million per annum from football and Government (a 15% increase on recent years).

The NFFS investment priorities can be broadly grouped into six areas, recognising the need to grow the game, support existing players and better understand the different football environments:

- ◀ **Improve 20,000 Natural Turf pitches**, with a focus on addressing drop off due to a poor playing experience;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 3G AGP 'equivalents'** (mix of full size and small sided provision, including MUGAs - small sided facilities are likely to have a key role in smaller / rural communities and encouraging multi-sport offers), enhancing the quality of playing experience and supporting a sustainable approach to grass roots provision;
- ◀ **Deliver 1,000 changing pavilions/clubhouses**, linked to multi-pitch or hub sites, supporting growth (particularly in women and girls football), sustainability and providing a facility infrastructure to underpin investment in coaching, officials and football development;
- ◀ **Support access to flexible indoor spaces**, including equipment and court markings, to support growth in futsal, walking football and to support the education and skills outcomes, exploiting opportunities for football to positively impact on personal and social outcomes for young people in particular;
- ◀ **Refurbish existing stock to maintain current provision**, recognising the need to address historic under-investment and issues with refurbishment of existing facilities;
- ◀ **Support testing of technology and innovation**, building on customer insight to deliver hubs for innovation, testing and development of the game.



# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

### *Local Football Facility Plans*

To support in delivery of the NFFS, The FA commissioned a national project. Since 2020, every local authority across England has a Local Football Facility Plan (LFFP). Each plan is unique to its area as well as being diverse in its representation, including currently underrepresented communities.

Identifying strategic priorities for football facilities across the formal, recreational and informal game, LFFPs present a ten-year vision for football facilities that aims to transform the playing pitch stock in a sustainable way. They identify key projects to be delivered and act as an investment portfolio for projects that require funding. LFFPs guide the allocation of 90% of national football investment (The FA, Premier League and DCMS) and forge stronger partnerships with local stakeholders to develop key sites. This, together with local match-funding will deliver over one billion pounds of investment into football facilities over the next 10-years.

It is important to recognise that an LFFP is an investment portfolio of priority projects for potential investment - it is not a detailed supply and demand analysis of all pitch provision in a local area. Therefore, it cannot be used as a replacement for a Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) and it will not be accepted as an evidence base for site change of use or disposal.

A LFFP will; however, build on available/existing local evidence and strategic plans and may adopt relevant actions from a PPS and/or complement these with additional investment priorities.

### ***The FA: Time for Change Strategy (2020-24)***

The FA launched its new National Game Strategy in January 2021 which aims to 'unite the game and inspire the nation'. It will do this in two ways, by 'changing the game to maximise its impact' and by 'serving the game to deliver football for all'.

To achieve this, the strategy will focus on six Game Changer objectives, to change the fabric of the game and tackle long-term issues, to make the largest possible impact in the years ahead:

- ◀ Win a major tournament
- ◀ Service > two million through a transformed media platform
- ◀ Ensure equal opportunities for every girl
- ◀ Delivery of 5,000 quality pitches
- ◀ A game free of discrimination
- ◀ Maximise the appeal and revenue of the FA cups and BFAWSL

These are underpinned by eight Serve objectives, ensuring maintenance of brilliant business-as-usual services to support the growing and evolving needs of the game:

- ◀ Trusted, progressive regulation and administration
- ◀ Safe and inclusive football pathways and environment
- ◀ Personalised and connected learning experiences
- ◀ Maximum investment into the game
- ◀ Diverse, high-performing workforce and inclusive culture
- ◀ World class venues and events
- ◀ Strong reputation and clear brand identity
- ◀ Technology enabled and insight driven

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

### ***England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Inspiring Generations (2020-2024)***

The England and Wales Cricket Board unveiled a new strategic plan in 2019. The strategic plan aims to connect communities and improve lives by inspiring people to discover and share their passion for cricket

The plan sets out six important priorities and activities, these are:

- ◀ ***Grow and nurture the core***
  - ◀ Create an infrastructure investment fund for First Class County Clubs (FCCs)
  - ◀ Introduce a new Community Investment Funding for FCCs and County Cricket Boards (CCBs)
  - ◀ Invest in club facilities
  - ◀ Develop the role of National Counties Cricket
  - ◀ Further invest in County Competitions
  
- ◀ ***Inspire through elite teams***
  - ◀ Increase investment in the county talent pathway
  - ◀ Incentivise the counties to develop England Players
  - ◀ Drive the performance system through technology and innovation
  - ◀ Create heroes and connect them with a new generation of fans
  
- ◀ ***Make cricket accessible***
  - ◀ Broaden crickets appeal through the New Competition
  - ◀ Create a new digital community for cricket
  - ◀ Install non-traditional playing facilities in urban areas
  - ◀ Continue to deliver South Asian Action Plans
  - ◀ Launch a new participation product, linked to the New Competition
  
- ◀ ***Engage children and young people***
  - ◀ Double cricket participation in primary schools
  - ◀ Deliver a compelling and coordinated recreational playing offer from age five upwards
  - ◀ Develop our safeguarding to promote safe spaces for children and young people
  
- ◀ ***Transform women's and girls' cricket***
  - ◀ Grow the base through participation and facilities investment
  - ◀ Launch centres of excellence and a new elite domestic structure
  - ◀ Invest in girls' county age group cricket
  - ◀ Deliver a girls' secondary school programme
  
- ◀ ***Support our communities***
  - ◀ Double the number of volunteers in the game
  - ◀ Create a game-wide approach to Trust and Foundations through the cricket network
  - ◀ Develop a new wave of officials and community coaches
  - ◀ Increase participation in disability cricket

### ***The Rugby Football Union Strategy (2021)***

Through the strategy, the RFU aims to enrich lives, introduce more people to rugby union and develop the sport for future generations. The goal is to achieve this by strengthening and uniting rugby union in England and producing consistently winning England teams.

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

Eight key strategic priorities are identified with all investment decisions aligned to these. The strategy also outlines the RFU's core activities which form the backbone of its business operations and services to the game.

The priorities include four 'Game Objectives' and four 'Driving Objectives' as detailed below.

### *Game Objectives*

- ◀ Enjoyment – enable positive player experiences on and off the field
- ◀ Winning England – create the best possible high-performance system for England Rugby
- ◀ Welfare – enhance player welfare to protect and support the wellbeing of players
- ◀ Flourishing rugby communities – support clubs to sustain and grow themselves and to reflect society

### *Driving Objectives*

- ◀ Diversity & Inclusion – drive rugby union in England to reflect the diversity of society
- ◀ Understand – build a deep understanding of players, volunteers and fans to shape the future of the game
- ◀ Connect – connect with and grow the rugby community and create exceptional experiences
- ◀ Commercial and operational excellence – ensure a sustainable and efficient business model delivered by an inspired workforce

### ***England Hockey Strategy***

England Hockey's Facilities Strategy can be found [here](#). It is presently updating the incumbent strategy, to be completed in 2022.

**Vision:** For every hockey club in England to have appropriate and sustainable facilities that provide excellent experiences for players.

**Mission:** More, Better, Happier Players with access to appropriate and sustainable facilities

The 3 main objectives of the facilities strategy are:

#### **1. PROTECT: To conserve the existing hockey provision**

- There are currently over 800 pitches that are used by hockey clubs (club, school, universities) across the country. It is important to retain the current provision where appropriate to ensure that hockey is maintained across the country.

#### **2. IMPROVE: To improve the existing facilities stock (physically and administratively)**

- The current facilities stock is ageing and there needs to be strategic investment into refurbishing the pitches and ancillary facilities. England Hockey works to provide more support for clubs to obtain better agreements with facilities providers & education around owning an asset.

#### **3. DEVELOP: To strategically build new hockey facilities where there is an identified need and ability to deliver and maintain. This might include consolidating hockey provision in a local area where appropriate.**

# BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

England Hockey has identified key areas across the country where there is a lack of suitable hockey provision and there is a need for additional pitches, suitable for hockey. There is an identified demand for multi pitches in the right places to consolidate hockey and allow clubs to have all of their provision catered for at one site.

### ***Rugby League World Cup ‘Inspired by 2022’ Legacy Programme***

The Rugby League World Cup 2022 will develop a £10 million legacy programme with funds driven into local clubs and community projects. The government investment, delivered by Sport England, is part of RLWC 2021’s ambitious plan to grow the sport and make it more visible, engaging and welcoming to current and potential participants.

The funding will be split into large transformational community projects, such as changing room improvements and new artificial grass pitches with the remaining funding used for smaller scale initiatives such as supplying new kit and equipment to promote club and community development. The investment will focus on the following four key areas:

- ◀ Creating welcoming environments
- ◀ Encouraging participation growth
- ◀ Building community engagement
- ◀ Cultivating further investment

### ***Tennis in Britain - LTA Strategy***

The LTA’s vision for 2019 – 2023, Tennis Opened Up includes seven strategies relating to three objectives which are built around its mission ‘to grow tennis by making it relevant, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable’.

#### **Objectives**

- ◀ Increase the number of fans on our database from [623,602] to [1,000,000] by 2023.
- ◀ More people playing more often;
  - Increase the number of adults playing tennis each year from [7.7% (4,018,600)] of the population to [8.5% (4,420,460)], and the frequency of adults playing tennis twice a month 2.5% 1,311,800 to 1.9% 1,500,000 by 2023.
  - The number of children playing tennis once a week from 550,000 to 700,000 (7.9% to 10% of the population) by 2023.
- ◀ Enable 5 new players to break into the top 100 by 2023 and inspire the tennis audience.

#### **Strategies**

1. Visibility -Broaden relevance and increase visibility of tennis all year round to build engagement and participation with fans and players.
2. Innovation - Innovate in the delivery of tennis to widen its appeal.
3. Investment - Support community facilities and schools to increase the opportunities to play
4. Accessibility - Make the customer journey to playing tennis easier and more accessible for anyone
5. Engagement - Engage and collaborate with everyone involved in delivering tennis in Britain, particularly coaches and volunteers to attract and maintain more people in the game.
6. Performance - Create a pathway for British champions that nurtures a diverse team of players, people and leaders.

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

7. Leadership - Lead tennis in Britain to the highest standard so it is a safe, welcoming, well-run sport.

### ***England Netball***

In November 2021 England Netball launched a 10-year 'Adventure Strategy' for the game with a new brand identity for the organisation.

England Netball's 'Adventure Strategy' shares a purpose-led ambition for the game, to build on the momentum the sport has seen in recent years and take it to new heights for the decade ahead.

The 'Adventure Strategy' outlines the intention to:-

- ◀ accelerate the development and growth of the game at every level, from grassroots to the elite,
- ◀ elevate the visibility of the sport, and
- ◀ lead a movement to impact lives on and beyond the court.

At the heart of its purpose, England Netball, with its proud and unique female foundations, will remain dedicated to increasing opportunities for women and girls to play the game as a priority, working tirelessly to address the gender participation gap in sport that has widened since the global pandemic.

Underpinned by years of engaging with and delivering netball for female communities, the organisation pledges to understand, support and nurture women and girls more deeply at every life stage, at every age.

The organisation is also committed to opening the sport to new audiences in every community, so netball better represents the rich diversity of the country it proudly represents, and ensures the sport continues to evolve and adapt to thrive in the future, helping to create a truly inclusive sport for all where everyone can belong, flourish and soar. A recent partnership announcement with England Men's and Mixed Netball Association (EMMNA) to help develop and grow male participation in the game, supports this commitment as England Netball pledges to promote difference and embrace the opportunity to make the sport a possibility within everyone's reach.

Transforming netball for children and young people is a strategic priority to protect the future of the sport. Working with schools and policy makers to extend physical literacy within, and after the school day with a focus on netball specific provision will pave the way for greater community participation. The organisation will accelerate the expansion of its Bee Netball programme for young children, whilst supporting teens and young women to stay in the game to keep them physically active and in the game for life.

The elite game is in focus too, with the ambition for the Vitality Roses to be the best female sports team in the world, supporting the national team to consistently win on the world stage, with an outstanding talent pathway in place to fuel sustainable successes on court, and setting new standards for netball. The professionalisation of the game over the next decade is a priority, focusing on growing world-leading international and domestic competitions and events, and creating more careers in the sport.

Grounded in feedback from the Netball Family, with over 3,000 members and stakeholders consulted as part of the strategic process to understand what they wanted netball to 'look like'

## BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAYING PITCH & OUTDOOR SPORT STRATEGY

---

in 2031, the plan is aspirational and ambitious and sees the organisation pledge to continue to be a trailblazer for women's sport as it embarks on its new adventure.

### *Facility Development*

The facility development aspirations stated within the Strategy are to:-

- ◀ Take a fresh look at the spaces required to support the sport, creating accessible places in every community to allow netball to be incorporated into how and where women and girls live their lives;
- ◀ Protect, enhance, and extend the network of homes that house the sport at a local and regional level;
- ◀ Develop an elite domestic professional competition that supports full time athletes underpinned by a world class infrastructure and environments.
- ◀ For England Netball to achieve its ambitions to make the game accessible to wider audiences and in every community, it encourages Local Authorities to adopt policies within Playing Pitch Strategies and Built Facilities Strategies that:-
- ◀ Facilitates informal netball activity within neighbourhood multi use games areas for example by installing combined outdoor basketball and netball goals and art courts in Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play (NEAPs).
- ◀ Incorporates the cultural and health needs of women and girls within any designs for improved or new facilities.
- ◀ Protects and enhances netball facilities within all Primary and Secondary School environments so they offer a positive first experience of the sport for students and the wider community during out of school hours.
- ◀ Supports the installation of floodlights on outdoor courts to increase all year-round use.
- ◀ Facilitates the development of netball growth programmes, club training and competition within public leisure centres.
- ◀ Where appropriate, supports the development of netball homes and performance environments that enable local women and girls to pursue a career in netball as an elite athlete, official, coach or administrator.

### ***British Crown Green Bowling Association***

Please note there is no current facility guidance provided by British Crown Green Bowling Association responsible for crown green bowls in England.

<http://bcgba.org.uk/index.html>

### ***England Golf – Strategic Direction (2021-2025)***

In 2021 England Golf launched its new Strategy to leads, support, inspire and deliver for its community of golfers, golf clubs and counties. Its re-focusing its priorities, energy and passion into the key areas to help widen golf's appeal, highlighting the sport as a more inclusive and accessible offer.

The objectives are:

- ◀ Lead through strong governance & integrity
- ◀ Energise & support the golf community
- ◀ Deliver a more inclusive & accessible sport
- ◀ Inspire current & future generations

<https://www.englandgolf.org/englandgolfstrategy/>